

STEAD'S



NOV. 13th,
1920



GABRIELE D'ANNUNZIO
POET, AVIATOR AND FILMBUSTER.

9^D

Whooping Cough and Measles

Epidemics of whooping cough and measles are sweeping over Australia at present, and in quite a number of cases pneumonia is supervening, with fatal results. As the whole of these illnesses are due to micro-organisms, it is most important that the mouths, throats, and stomachs of children should be regularly treated with a preparation which, while destroying pathogenic germs, exercises no injurious effect on the human being. For such purpose there is nothing better than

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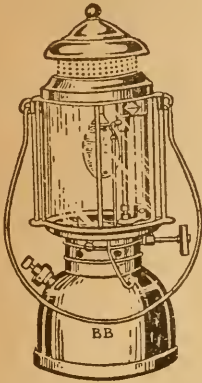
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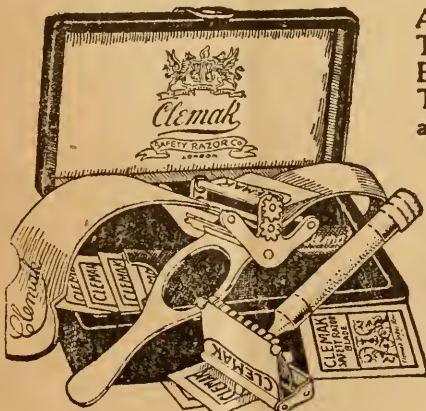
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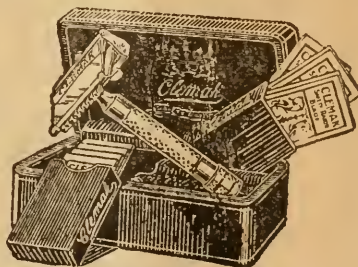


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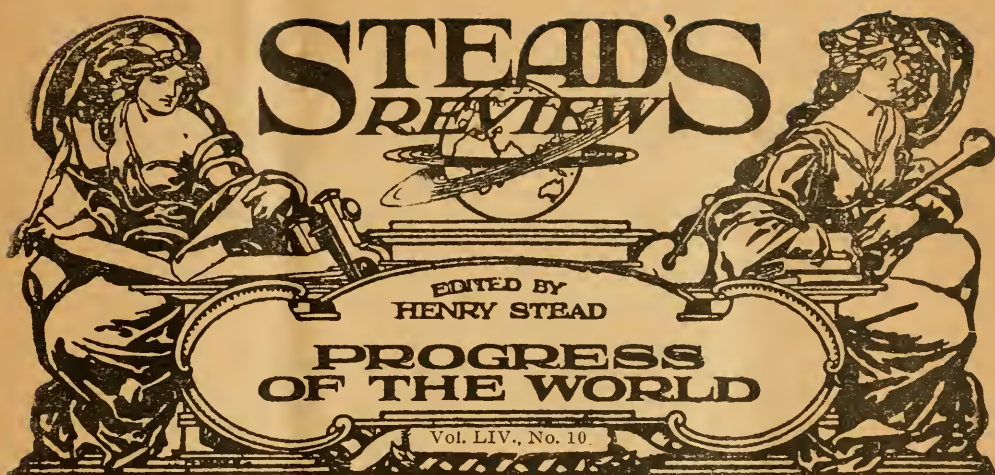
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NOVEMBER 6. 1920.

A Notable Anniversary.

Two years ago, on November 11th, the Armistice between the Allies and the Central Powers was signed, and the war, which had lasted for over four years, came to an end. At that time, it was assumed that Peace would be made on the lines of the Fourteen Points laid down by President Wilson, which had been accepted by both sides. The extent to which the German nation had collapsed behind its army was not realised at first, but, as the parlous state of the starved people became known, Allied demands hardened, and, in the end, the Germans were forced to sign a Treaty which largely ignored the famous Fourteen Points. Its terms were more onerous than those of any other Treaty of modern times, not even excepting those dictated by Napoleon to a prostrate Prussia at Tilsit. But although the Armistice had been signed, the German people did not get that relief they had anticipated its signing would bring them. The blockade, instead of being raised, became more severe and extended into the Baltic, thus cutting off

the fish supply on which the people had largely relied for food. It thus came about that when, several months later, Peace was concluded at Versailles, the condition of the people in Central Europe, and especially in New Austria and Germany, was much worse than it had been in November, 1918, when the war ended. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of persons, chiefly children and elderly folk, had died as a result of the continued blockade, and the people had been brought to so exhausted a state that their leaders had no course but to agree to whatever terms the Allies cared to enforce.

The Treaty Cannot Be Carried Out.

But even before the ceremony in the Hall of Mirrors had taken place shrewd economists and students of international affairs had asserted that many of the conditions in the Treaty could never be carried out. To-day, it is generally admitted that the attempt to crush Germany, and keep her 60,000,000 people permanently suppressed, will bring ruin to the whole of Europe if not to the world. It is conceded that the payment of the gigantic in-

dennities, which in the Treaty masquerade under the guise of reparation, is altogether impossible, and already the British Government is preparing to admit that there is no likelihood of remittances from Germany being available to reduce the war debt. Even in Australia, where Mr. Hughes made such great parade of forcing Germany to pay the utmost farthing, the Treasurer recently remarked, ruefully, that there was little chance of the financial situation being relieved by money payments from our late enemies. It was everywhere anticipated that the years immediately following the end of the war would be devoted to strenuous reconstruction in Europe, but instead, many of the countries concerned have got still deeper in the mire. By refusing to even fix the amount of the reparation payments, the Allies have successfully deprived the Germans of all incentive to re-establish their industries. They have, indeed, reduced them to a state where their main, often only, concern is to get enough food to carry them through another day. Deprived of their ships, despoiled of their iron mines, and many of their coal fields, with the fate of the best of those left still in doubt, with their mark worth only 1½d. when purchases outside Germany are to be made, can we wonder that conditions in that country are desperate, and that there are as yet few signs of revival?

Bulgaria Recovers First.

In Austria matters are still worse owing to the fact that the huge city of Vienna continues to exist, although it has ceased to be the central emporium of a great empire. In the new States of Czecho-Slovakia, Jugo-Slavia and Greater Roumania, things are better because all three countries are largely self-supporting, and produce foodstuffs, the export of which enables them to get necessary raw materials from abroad on reasonable terms. Their troubles are mainly to do with transport, the finding of new markets, and the rearrangement of their internal affairs. Bulgaria, of all the former enemy countries, appears to be recovering most rapidly. Her people suffered less than any of the others, the collapse of their exchange does not

gravely affect peasant proprietors who produce their own food. The exports of the country have always considerably exceeded imports, which did not take the form of raw materials, but of articles which can largely be done without in times like these. Export has recommenced, and all the world is crying out for the things the Bulgar farmer produces—grain, meat, hides, silk, fruit, timber and tobacco. Bulgaria has lost territory, and has been deprived of her hard won outlet to the Aegean, but she lost comparatively few men in the war, and is again more nearly normal than any other country which took part in the struggle.

Trouble in Turkey.

A Turkish settlement is no nearer. In fact, the chance of rearranging the Sultan's Empire on the Allies' pattern now is far less possible than it was two years ago. The oppressed peoples we set out to liberate are showing the greatest resentment towards their liberators, who find themselves more hated than even the Turks, and have become involved in wars which demand the presence of great armies on the spot, and entail the expenditure of many millions. The Arabs declare that Great Britain has broken her plighted word to them, and are showing their anger by open hostility in Mesopotamia. In Syria, allotted to France by the Allies, the French army now numbers over 60,000 men, and is sure only of the territory it is actually standing on. The Armenians, about whose wrongs Allied propagandists made the welkin ring, have been left to their fate. Not one of the *Entente* Powers will accept responsibility for them; they have, as formerly, to rely upon themselves. The Turks, instead of submitting meekly to the carving up of their empire, are actively opposing it. With England in possession of Constantinople, they have shifted their headquarters to Anatolia, where they cannot be got at, and they are now apparently engaged in reorganising their forces with the help of the Russian Bolsheviks. It is an extraordinary position that England, the friend and champion of the Turks for so many decades, should now be engaged in

cutting up their country, whilst Russia, for so long their enemy and terror, should now be helping them to restore their old Empire. The Turkish business has affected the entire Moslem world. Anger over the division of Asia Minor and the treatment of the Turks is to-day manifesting itself bitterly in India, in Afghanistan, in Egypt; is seriously embarrassing Great Britain. Yet Turkish rule has been bad and blighting, and to turn the Turk out of Europe, and deprive him of most of his possessions in Asia Minor, was the right thing to do. Pity that in doing it we have stumbled on such serious trouble.

Russia, Italy and France.

Russia since the Armistice has gone far. It is an amazing thing that the Russians, smashed by the Germans, torn by internal revolution, attacked on all sides by enemies supported by the Allies, blockaded and their Government unrecognised, are to-day the greatest force in Europe, whose actions may yet compel the entire revision of the Peace Treaty and a redrawing of the map, so carefully designed by the Allies at Paris. When we turn to the victorious countries we see a far different state of affairs than was rosily anticipated two years ago. In Italy, industrial upheavals have paralysed production. Compelled to import food and coal, which must be purchased with a lire worth only 3½d. instead of 10d., small wonder that the finances of the country are in desperate condition. To meet the situation a capital levy has been enforced, and all war profits have been confiscated, but it is obvious enough that even these heroic measures will fail to balance the ledger. Yet, grave as are conditions in Italy, they are potentially worse in France. France at the moment is in better shape than Italy. The franc is worth 5d.; coal is being obtained from Germany, and the iron mines of Lorraine offer a new source of wealth. But France has enormous commitments. Obsessed by dread and hatred of Germany she is determined to compel the carrying out of the Treaty to the letter. In this resolve she has not the active support of England or America, and must therefore carry a far larger military bur-

den than ever. Her enormous losses during the war are not being repaired in the cradle, and she faces greater responsibilities with a diminishing population, and a depleted treasury. She has, however, escaped any serious industrial upheaval, and, being largely self-supporting, might soon recover were it not for her huge war debt and heavy new commitments.

Great Britain the Best Off.

Great Britain has come out of the war better than any of her Allies excepting the United States, yet the situation at Home is far different from what was hoped when our victory was assured. True, German competition, which so seriously threatened our commercial supremacy, has been swept away; we have possessed ourselves of the German fleet; German markets are ours for the taking. Yet the cost of living is higher than ever before, sugar, butter, and other necessities are scarce, and unemployment is increasing rapidly. Labor troubles have been rife, with the result that there has been great delay in getting factories on to a peace footing again. Still output has increased and exports are mounting. But the depreciated currency of those to whom most of Britain's products are being sold is now having its inevitable consequence.

A Shortage of Purchasers.

The demand for goods continues; we have not yet reached the stage of over-production, but the time has arrived when the limit of the purchasing power of our customers is being reached, and they can buy no more. In an article some six months ago, I declared the cry "Produce! Produce! Produce!" to be a popular delusion, pointing out that, whilst there were plenty of things, it still was worth while producing, the real shortage in the world, was not goods, but purchasers. I ventured to predict that there would inevitably be a notable drop in the prices even of staple products like wool and wheat, and that the inability of people to buy, owing to lack of money, must sooner or later affect their position. Already there has been a considerable drop in prices, and although, in many lines, this is due to

the action of the banks in refusing credit, thus compelling those having stocks to realise them, if necessary at a loss, in order to meet their liabilities for goods coming forward, the inability of the people to purchase is at the back of the banks' action. England will of course get through safely, but instead of the anticipated era of prosperity, a time of depression is coming. The artificially high freights which have been enriching her shipping companies must drop. No ring can long withstand the fierce competition which there will soon be for the reduced exports and imports of the world. There is a greater tonnage of shipping to-day than there was before the war, and owing to the curtailment of the buying power of millions of people, the amount of goods this increased tonnage will be called on to handle will be considerably less than in pre-war days. During the war, Germans, Frenchmen, Italians, and Englishmen have learned to do without many things they deemed necessary at one time. Now that the temporary buying orgy is passing, they will find they can still do without them. This inability to buy, in Europe and elsewhere, has already begun to close factories in England which, owing to the high price of coal, are unable to produce at anything like the pre-war cost.

The Failure of the League of Nations.

But perhaps the most amazing condition of all is to be seen in the United States. That country has not only paid off all her old debts, but has lent the world vast sums of money, yet she is actually worse off than before, and is apparently on the eve of an industrial collapse. An exporting country, she finds it extremely difficult to sell her goods abroad, owing to the high rate of the dollar, which obliges those who buy her goods to pay some thirty per cent. more for them than formerly. Like Russia, which has no exchange at all, so depreciated is the rouble, she is practically reaching a condition of barter, but at present her imports do not anything like balance her exports, plus the interest payments which foreign countries have to make on money loaned them. Before the balance is adjusted, there must be

a most difficult period for American industries. The picture that we look on, two years after the war ended, is not a cheering one. The rearrangement of the European map proposed by the Allies, has created innumerable problems, the solution of which is not yet in sight. There has been utter failure in the policy of the *Entente* towards Russia, whilst the division of Turkey has strained the Alliance, and may yet disrupt it. But the most tragic failure of all is the League of Nations, on which the entire Peace edifice was to depend. Its originator, a broken and discredited man, has had his policy utterly repudiated by his own people at the recent Presidential election, and the League, instead of being the international body directing world affairs, and making further war impossible, has degenerated into an association of the victorious Powers, excluding the most powerful of them all, which merely carries out the instructions of the Supreme Allied Council. It may have slightly greater powers than those with which the Hague tribunal was endowed, but, being completely dominated by France and Great Britain, it is obviously a less impartial body. We fought to destroy militarism and end wars. The Peace we have concluded with a prostrate foe has already brought forth a crop of wars; necessitates an expenditure on military preparations far in excess of that of 1913.

Cause for Hope if—

Although the war has failed in its avowed objects, there is reason to hope that a stable condition may yet be established in Europe which will make another war unlikely for a long time to come. It is now generally admitted that militarism in Germany is dead, and that there is a real desire on the part of the Germans to carry out the onerous terms of the Treaty. In England, especially, there is a growing demand for the modification of some of the demands made in the Treaty, whilst the proposal that Germany shall be invited to join the League of Nations at once suggests that we are reaching the stage where mutual arrangements are to supersede the dictatorship of the Allies in Europe. If

the amount of the reparation payment to be made by Germany is fixed, if she is allowed to retain her Silesian coal mines, and to get back her Rhine provinces, when it is clear that she has every intention of carrying out the modified terms of the Treaty, then there is prospect of real Peace in Europe. If on the other hand the amount of reparation is not fixed, or is fixed at so gigantic a figure as to make payment impossible, if the coal mines of Silesia go to Poland, if the ban against union with Austria is still maintained, if the Rhine provinces are to remain indefinitely in French hands, then we may look for an alliance between Germany and Russia, which will upset Allied schemes altogether. It would aim first at the reduction of Poland, might even demand a fourth partition of that country. It would entrust Germans with the exploitation of the vast resources of Russia and political control would follow automatically. With Hungary Bolshevik Russia would assist the Magyars in getting back Transylvania, and the Balkan settlement would speedily be upset. We may take it for granted that, back of the minds of Allied statesmen, is the dread of driving Germany and Russia into each other's arms. This dread, together with the conviction that prostrate Germany prevents the recovery of the whole of Europe, will inevitably constrain them to agree to modifications in the terms imposed on the Central Powers at Versailles. The feeling in England, which is naturally reflected by Lloyd George, gives us cause for confident hope that, by the time another anniversary of the Armistice comes round, Europe will be well on the way to industrial, financial and social recovery.

To Cut Up Lithuania.

General Zeligowski's action in occupying Vilna, and setting up an independent West Lithuanian Republic is having its anticipated sequel. This new State is demanding union with Poland, and, in order to secure an entirely free outlet to the sea, the Poles, according to a cable from Copenhagen, are attempting to arrange for a division of the whole of Lithuania with the other Baltic Republics. The suggestion is that Esthonia and

Poland will share it between them; but this is obviously incorrect, as Latvia lies between Esthonia and Lithuania. The Esthonians can have nothing at all to do with Lithuania, but the Letts are deeply interested in its fate. It is quite possible that the Government of Latvia might be willing to surrender Libau to the Poles in exchange for the northern half of Lithuania. This arrangement would give the Poles a corridor to the Baltic, and a port of their own. Although Libau is not nearly so convenient as Dantzig, it would belong absolutely to Poland, whereas Dantzig does not, and there is always danger that the Prussians might seize the corridor which at present cuts their country into two parts. That the Allies have approved of the establishment of a Lithuanian Republic is not likely to stand in the way of the suggested division, for it is now quite clear that they are not prepared to interfere actively in the Baltic settlement. They will not send a single regiment to Lithuania to protect that country against the Poles and the Letts, and they would prevent the Germans sending troops for the purpose. As Lithuania is peopled by White Russians, Great Russians, Letts, Lithuanians and Poles, the proposed division is probably a better arrangement than that of an independent Republic. The Russians, though, are hardly likely to approve it, as a weak Lithuania between them and the sea, would obviously suit them better than a strengthened Latvia, and a powerful Poland.

Another Anti-Bolshevik Leader Collapses.

Wrangel—whose name is pronounced Vrangl—is now in full retreat. Like his predecessors, he won great victories when there was no considerable force opposed to him, but directly Trotsky could spare the men from other fronts, and rushed troops against him, his triumphal course came to an abrupt end. He is falling rapidly back on the Crimea. If he is able to get into it, he should be safe enough, as the Allies control the Black Sea, and their heavy guns can dominate the narrow isthmus, which gives access to the peninsula. When, however, the Red Guards have pushed him through the bottle neck, they will probably be able

to keep him safely in the bottle without much trouble, providing, of course, internal happenings permit of the maintenance of a considerable force in Taurida, the mainland province north of the Crimea. If the Russians are determined to destroy Wrangel's army they would have to invade the Crimea, a feat which, though possible, might easily lead to disaster owing to the ease with which their communications with the mainland could be cut by the Allies. As, however, Great Britain is not actively supporting the anti-Bolshevik leader, her warships might not interfere in the struggle, in which event Wrangel could hardly regard the peninsula as a safe refuge.

Greece and Constantinople.

The death of the King of Greece—due to the bite of a monkey—has brought a political crisis in the land of the Hellenes. Constantine schemes for his return to the throne, against which Venizelos sets his face. There is apparently to be a trial of strength between the supporters of the two, but this will be mainly a local matter; the result of the struggle will make little difference to Greece herself. The Allies are not at all likely to deprive her of what they have given merely because her former king returns to the throne. It would be indeed curious if, after all, the old prophecy were realised, and a Greek king named Constantinos, wedded to a queen named Sophia, should enter the ancient cathedral of St. Sophia as lord of Constantinople. There are more unlikely things than that, in the end, Greece may be entrusted with the guardianship of the Levantine metropolis on the Golden Horn, and the return of Constantine to the throne does not now seem so altogether out of the question as it did a few weeks ago.

Wilson's Ideas Repudiated.

The victory of the Republican Candidate in the United States was generally anticipated, as the Republicans had won all along the line in the elections for Congress, which took place two years ago, but so great a landslide in favour of Senator Harding was not expected. He stood for the old policy of isolation, the Washington tradition—keep out of European entanglements, and oppose in-

terference by European Powers in the new world. His opponent, Governor Cox, was a Wilson man, who approved the Peace Treaty, and was an advocate of the League of Nations, which committed the United States to take part in affairs outside the new world. The sweeping Republican victory indicates clearly enough that Americans are against mixing up in European affairs and, although they fought to make the world safe for democracy, they do not propose to be parties to the rearrangement of Europe, which the Allies deem necessary to secure that safety. The election has sounded the death knell of the League of Nations. This will, no doubt, continue to function for the time being, as some such body is necessary for the carrying out of the Treaty, but beyond controlling plebiscites, appointing administrators and the like, it will have no power. A few of the neutrals have joined, but now that it has become nothing but an instrument of the *Entente*, they will hardly remain in it. Peace between Germany and the United States still awaits ratification by the Senate, and it is probable that nothing will be done until next March, when Harding takes possession of the White House.

Japanese in California.

By popular vote, California has decided upon stricter legislation to prevent Japanese from holding land in the State. The law passed before the war seemed strict, but it left loopholes, of which the Japanese are said to have taken full advantage. For instance, Japanese children, born in the United States, had a right to own land, as American citizens, and it is said that they were used as "dummy" owners by their elders, who were nominally trustees, but actually held the land. The old law forbade companies controlled by Japanese to lease or possess land, but it is alleged that American companies, with perhaps a single Japanese shareholder, have enabled Japanese to get control of property. The new law aims at preventing such indirect ownership. California's decision will not promote friendship between the two nations, and it is to be hoped that the blow will

at least be lightened by the granting of fair compensation. It is not likely that the American Federal Government will interfere with the California law. It is still a doubtful point whether Washington has power to insist on any State's compliance with international obligations; and in any case, the Washington authorities claim that they are not bound by any treaty to grant Japanese land-holding rights. As Japan herself forbids foreigners to own land in her country, she cannot well complain. But her people naturally resent being denied opportunities that are freely allowed to other aliens in the United States. Meantime the agitation for stricter exclusion laws continues in America.

America Will Not Support the Irish.

The situation in Ireland is no better. The death of Alderman McSweeney, after going without food for 74 days, has evoked expressions of sympathy all over the world for the Irish in their struggle for freedom. The election of the Republican candidate in the American Presidential elections must, however, be a blow to the Sinn Feiners. It is now certain that the United States will refuse to interfere in European affairs, and the new President will regard the Irish question as being solely a domestic concern, to be settled within the British Empire. There is no question that the Sinn Fein leaders have all along hoped for American help, and anticipated that the influence of the United States would be exercised on behalf of the Irish, who demanded that they should be allowed to rule themselves as they thought best. The certainty that America will not interfere in any way must greatly influence them, and the disappearance of all hope of help from outside may perhaps induce them to accept a solution which falls short of their present demands. Up to the present Sinn Fein has been able to secure the support of varying and different bodies in Ireland, but now that hope of American intervention must be abandoned, it is probable that many of these will be in favour of accepting Dominion Home Rule, which, of course, goes a great deal further than the Home Rule for which the old Nationalist Party fought. The

Sinn Fein movement is directed by a central authority, which has shown itself bold and astute, and fully able to take advantage of the blundering of the British Government, which can always be relied upon to make mistakes in Ireland. It has demanded complete independence, but if its all-embracing organisation begins to crack, owing to the disappearance of the United States as a factor in the game, there is prospect that it will agree to the establishment of a Dominion of Ireland instead of an Irish Republic.

Why Not Real Dominion Home Rule?

Meanwhile the Government is stumbling along with its Home Rule Bill, which is being subjected to criticism on every side. It does not propose Dominion rule, but British rule, with limited local freedom of action, to be exercised through two separate Parliaments. No one likes it, and the Irish will not have it at all. The thing to do would be to withdraw this discredited Bill, and bring in one instead which gave Ireland as much liberty as is enjoyed by Australia and New Zealand. Provision could be made for temporary control of defence matters by the British Government, but surely we are not now afraid that any European Power might use Ireland as a base of operations against England! If Dominion rule were granted, and hearty English co-operation in the establishment of local industries were forthcoming, Ireland would soon be contented, and the long series of stupid blunders committed by England in Ireland, and her selfish destruction and suppression of Irish industries in the past would be forgotten. Now that America has definitely withdrawn into her old shell of isolation a statesmanlike handling of the Irish trouble should bring a lasting solution.

Coal Strike Settled.

The coal strike which threatened disaster to British industry has been settled. It is a grudging settlement, there being actually a majority of miners against accepting the terms arranged by their leaders. As, fortunately, a three-fifths majority is required, those who desired to continue on strike were defeated. The miners get the 2s. a day they demanded, but for two months only. Beginning

next January, wages are to be on a sliding scale. If the output of coal from now to Christmas reaches the average of the last quarter, an increase of 1s. per day will be made over existing rates. An additional 6d. per day will be paid for every £288,000 of profits arising from the export of coal. Further wage increases will be made at the rate of 6d. a day for every additional 4,000,000 tons mined annually. As it is estimated that the increased production will just cover the cost of the extra wages, there is obviously no hope that the price of coal will fall. This is a matter of grave concern to British manufacturers.

Making a Majority Permanent.

The Labour Government in New South Wales has now arranged matters so satisfactorily that it is assured of office until, in the ordinary course by effluxion of time, another election must take place. The Electoral Act, under which the last election was held, made no provision for the filling of vacancies caused by death or resignation. Thus it became necessary, when one of his followers sickened, for Mr. Storey to hastily arrange for a vacancy to occur on the opposite side by the offer of a judgeship. This could not go on indefinitely, however, the positions on the bench being limited, so he brought in a Bill which provides that vacancies are to be filled by the Party to which the dead, or resigned member, belonged, the selection being given to that candidate of its persuasion who came next on the list of candidates for the constituency in which the vacancy occurred. It is therefore now impossible for Mr. Storey to lose his majority of one at an unlucky bye-election. He is quite safe for another two and a-half years at least. The position in the N.S.W. Parliament is that a member may die, but he must not rat! The Government has brought in a Land Bill, which aims at breaking up the large estates. It gives the Government power to resume land, paying owners in debentures, carrying four and a-half per cent. only. A very subtle provision is that which limits the amount an owner may retain, not to a given area, but to a given value—£20,000. The owner is to be asked to submit a rough plan of his proposed retention area. If he got

a high price this would automatically diminish his retention area. On the other hand, if he wanted to extend his retention area, the price of the rest of the land would have to be lower! The Minister of Lands pointed out that there were 20,000 returned soldiers wanting land which they could not get, that only 10 per cent. of the arable land of the State was being cultivated, and that only 2000 out of the 5000 miles of railway in N.S.W. were paying. Rural production and settlement were absolutely essential, and therefore it was imperative to compel the owners to part with their land. The Government could not afford to pay cash, hence the debenture scheme.

The Wool Position.

Nothing in Australia to-day—not even the Federal Treasurer's flirting with the currency problem—is of more importance to the Commonwealth than the course of the current wool sales. The offerings at the auctions in the different capitals so far have been of moderate extent, but it is being made manifest to even the dullest intellect among the wool growers and farmers that bidding only goes on for special grades of merinos. The low grade wool and the crossbred is left pretty well alone, and when it is recollected that our clip of these wools is larger than that of New Zealand, the seriousness of this hang-up of produce can be realised. What has to be appreciated is that the wool being sold represents only a portion of the clip. The prices being obtained are satisfactory, so far as they go, but it is disquieting to find that so much of the product of our greatest staple industry is not going into use in the markets of the world as it should be. All the trouble arises from the blundering committed in side-stepping Mr. Watt when he was coming to terms with the British Government over dealing with the 2,000,000 bales of wool held by it. If that wool were being sold so that its total was being steadily reduced, there would be hope that a basis for buying was in sight. Without that the manufacturer will buy from hand to mouth, so as to just cover requirements. The grower now has to put on his thinking-cap. So must the heads of the pastoral

companies, for it will be a calamity if stocks of wool go on accumulating as they have done. The question arises whether the experience gained by the Central Wool Committee during the years of the war could not be utilised in the interests of the industry. Politicians have shown that they are blunderers when entrusted with business enterprises. So the growers themselves, plus the members of the Committee, should get together to see whether some way cannot be found out of the present *impasse*. The banks also should disclose their views, because they are vitally interested in the solving of the problem. The time has arrived for prompt action. If the Prime Minister were anyone except Mr. Hughes, he would put pride in his pocket, call one of his favourite special tribunals to get a solution of the problem. Only he wants to go to the right class of men.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES.

Although Parliament has passed an exceedingly drastic exclusion law, some anti-Asiatic agitators are still in a panic. The new law is not yet in force, and the question is being asked whether it has been reserved for the consent of the Imperial Government. The exclusionists hope that the Prime Minister will treat the measure as purely domestic, in spite of the fact that imperial relationships are closely affected—notably in the clause providing that British subjects of Asiatic race are not to be “deemed” British. Mr. Massey expressed the opinion, when the Bill was before Parliament, that it need not be referred to London. But perhaps his second thoughts have been better. Meantime, at a public meeting in Auckland, a resolution has been passed clamouring for effective exclusion of Asiatics. The time-worn accusations against the Asiatic race as a whole were brought forward. Their alleged immorality was held up in contrast to the virtue of white peoples. Probably the speakers were merely ignorant that prostitution is far more rare in China than in Western

lands. They only know that Chinatown in any of our cities is a wicked place, and make no allowance for the fact that single men of any race going to a foreign land in like circumstances fall into temptation. There are good arguments against permitting a big influx of Asiatics, at least under the present degrading conditions, but there seems little excuse for stirring up popular feeling to the danger point by means of loose accusations.

The dispute over the marriage conventions of the Roman Catholic Church is not yet settled. The Bill introduced in the Legislative Council to invalidate marriages conducted by priests of that Church has been dropped, but the Government Bill is still before Parliament. An amendment was made by the Council, providing that all marriages must be conducted before a registrar. Such a clause would bring the marriage law into line with the birth laws. Babies must be registered; the parents may choose for themselves regarding baptism. Already it is the custom for British people in foreign countries, when marrying under the British law, to regard the consular marriage as the necessary and binding civil contract, the church ceremony being a thing apart, and quite optional.

The petty troubles at the mines have been adjusted, and the various strikes declared off. But, unfortunately, many of the miners have left during the time of idleness, and production will not be brought back to normal until new men have been engaged and trained.

Fear of the American Meat Trust led the Government to reject Armour and Co.'s application for a meat-exporting licence. The farmers' organisations in some districts had favoured granting the licence, so as to gain the advantage of the good market now offering in America. In any case, it is expected that the Trust will get a good share of the exports, though it is prevented from buying through Armour's New Zealand agency.

The gloomy prospects for sellers in the world's wool markets are very clearly set forth in a cablegram from the New Zealand High Commissioner

in London. During the past few years the world has been producing more wool than it has used. The surplus has been mounting steadily till it is now the equivalent of five-twelfths of a year's yield. The actual quantity of the surplus is about 2,000,000 bales, and of this total, 1,650,000 bales are Australasian. The present tendency is for the surplus to grow still greater. New Zealand sellers are especially unfortunate, as their wools are of the kind that are now unfashionable. The following table shows the comparison with Australia:—

	New Zealand Wools.	Australian Wools.
Worst selling classes . . .	55 p.c.	6 p.c.
Fair selling classes . . .	34 p.c.	15 p.c.
Best selling classes . . .	11 p.c.	79 p.c.
	100	100

People who are not financially interested in wool-selling will think it rather fortunate that the world should have more wool than it needs, and may have visions of decent suits at something less than eight guineas. But they will look in vain for any sign of rejoicing in the High Commissioner's report. It bemoans the plentifulness of wool and considers candidly what measures can be taken to keep prices up. Nature has given some little help by providing a drought in Australia, and so reducing the current clip by approximately 400,000 bales. This, we are told, "will assist the general position." But artificial aids are needed also. The wool must be held back from the markets—by the growers themselves, and by the Governments and other vendors. And the farmers should assist by limiting the output—killing more of their lambs instead of allowing them to grow to wool-bearing. All these measures are perfectly natural in a world of competitive markets. Yet, when trusts use such methods to control selling prices, or when labour organisations seek to raise their earnings by limitation of output, the politicians raise shrieks about "profiteers" and "Bolsheviks."

The salaries of teachers in the primary schools have been raised quite considerably, the minimum increase being £30 per annum. A total expenditure of £250,000 is involved in the increase.

WEST AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

The Queensland Government has decided to exercise the option it holds over the purchase of the mineral rights of Cockatoo Island, Yampi Sound, West Australia. It paid £3000 for the option, and has to pay another £30,000 in debentures before October 31st. West Australia was reluctant to part with these rich iron-ores; but, whatever the Queensland Government may have in its mind about the proposed State steel works, such an enterprise would be quite beyond the present means of West Australia. The Queensland Minister of Mines said, by the way, after his recent inspection of the location that, metaphorically speaking, the footprints of Japanese, looking for iron ore, were all over Yampi.

Agricultural and pastoral development is moving fast in the West. A few years ago it was often short of mutton. Today it has an exportable surplus. And the Great Western Railway makes things possible which were formerly not to be thought of. It still brings trucks of stud sheep from South Australia, but it also takes back whole train loads of store sheep for mutton. During the past month no fewer than 40,000 sheep are said to have gone "East" to fill the depleted butchers' shops of Adelaide. The freight from Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta alone works out at from 2s. 9d. to 3s. per sheep. Yet the business is reported to be quite profitable to the growers.

The tramway strike which threatened Perth has been averted. The Government is to be asked to appoint a tribunal to decide the questions in dispute.

A week ago the Railway Department showed initiative and enterprise, by sending a special excursion train through the wheat-belt. Ninety-five men and women from the city were personally conducted through the country, which most of them only knew by hear-say. They were fed and lectured on the train, and returned to town full of enthusiasm for the golden crops of the back-country. Latest reports on these crops are disappointing. The dry October has seriously discounted our hopes of a bumper harvest, and at best, a ten-bushel average is now expected.

History in Caricature.

Oh, wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us.—BURNS



Il 420.]

[Florence.

BEAR: "Marianne, don't raise too many people
against me, lest this fellow on my right should
break his chains of neutrality."

Russia and the Bolsheviks naturally come in for a good deal of attention by the cartoonists of the world. There is a marked difference in treatment before and after the Polish crisis. On the while, the Italians are sympathetic, the English are divided in opinion, and the French are bitterly hostile to the Lenin Government. *Il 420* shows Russia imploring France not to support Wrangel, as this might induce the Germans to break their neutrality. France and Italy are shown looking on with indifference, whilst France urges Wrangel into the fray.

Low is excellent in his cartoon, showing the answer those who are at present ruling the world would give to the Russian Government if they dared.

De Amsterdammer suggests that the Polish success against the Bolsheviks



SLUR.]

"Want a nice, long, lasting peace, do you? Just turn your back for a moment."

[London.



Nebelspalter.]

[Zurich.

BOLSHEVISM THREATENS ALL.

"Therefore, citizens, arm yourselves to protect your holiest goods—your money, your rest, your evening drink and your sugar cards."

is due to French strategy, evidently believing that the Russians would have reached Warsaw had it not been for the French officers in the Polish army.



Daily Express.]

LENIN SQUASH.

[London.



De Amsterdamer.]

[Amsterdam.

THE POLISH SUCCESSES.

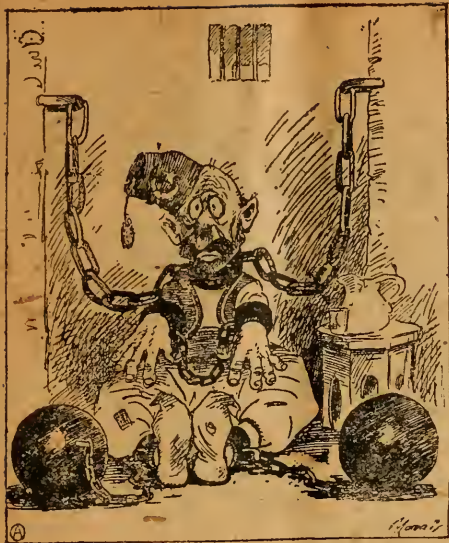
What altered the balance (French strategy.)



Eagle.]

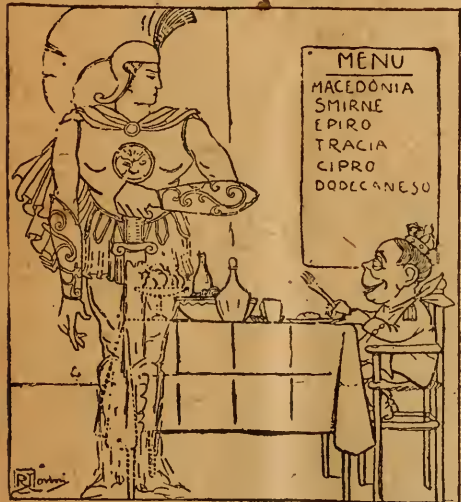
[Brooklyn.

MORAL: DON'T USE OIL TO QUENCH FIRE.



Times. [Morristown.
IF TURKEY MUST REMAIN IN EUROPE.

The American papers show themselves very much opposed to the Turk being allowed to remain in Europe, and the *Morristown Times* suggests that if the Sultan is to be permitted to remain at Constantinople, he should be so fettered as to be incapable of ever again taking part in European affairs.



Il Travaso. [Rome.
CONVERSING WITH A SHADE.

ALEXANDER THE PRESENT OF GREECE: "How like I am to thee, Alexander! The only difference is that I am the greater!"



Nebelspalter. [Zurich.
LEAGUE OF NATIONS—LEAGUE OF PEACE.

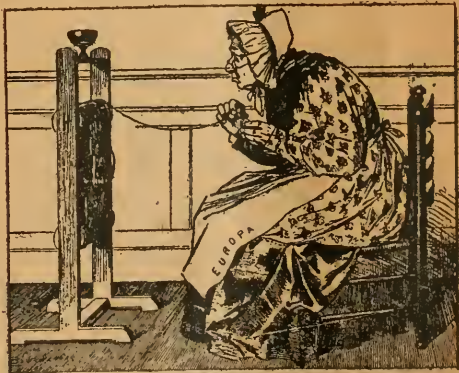
SWITZERLAND: "I certainly have an invitation to join!"

The Italians bitterly resent the handing over to Greece of such large areas in the Balkans and in Asia Minor. This attitude is well illustrated in the cartoon from *Il Travaso* on this page.

The neutral view of the League of Nations is indicated by a Swiss artist in the *Nebelspalter*.

The Dutch *Amsterdammer* now fears that there is little hope of unravelling the European tangle.

Il 420 hates Giolitti very fervently, and seizes every opportunity of depict-



De Amsterdammer. [Amsterdam.
THE EUROPEAN TANGLE.

MOTHER EUROPE: "Shall I ever get the ball rolled again?"



[Il 470.]

[Florence,

CONFISCATION OF WAR PROFITS IN ITALY.

It is the old story over again. Only the little ones are caught. The big ones escape to France, Spain, America, and elsewhere.



Wahre Jakob.]

[Stuttgart.

FROM CALIFORNIA.

"It is a legend that when the last mammoth tree falls, America will be in danger."

"Yes, sir. And a lot of Japanese rats are destroying it!"

"Umph! Then I must increase the size of my fleet."

ing him in as unfavourable a light as possible. It declares that his policy of annexing all war profits will affect the minor profiteers only, those who have made immense fortunes will escape. That, of course, remains to be seen.

The German papers are eager to show that there is likely to be serious trouble between Japan and the United States. The *Wahre Jakob* recalls the legend that

when the last of the great Californian trees fall, America will be in imminent danger.

Industrial troubles in England and the threatening coal strike have kept the cartoonists busy. David Low shows

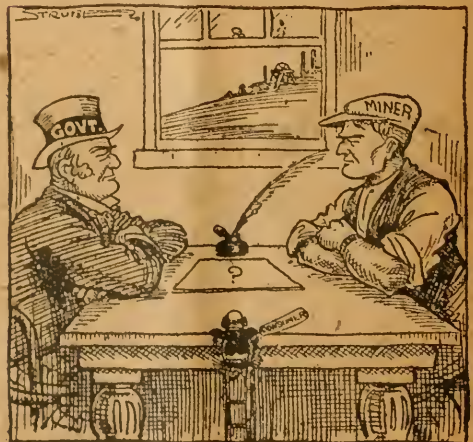


News of the World.]

[London,

DIRTY WEATHER AHEAD.

CAPTAIN JOHN BULL: "It looks nasty, at present, George, but with a bit of luck we may miss it yet."



Daily Express.]

[London,

OUR SEAT AT THE CONFERENCE.



Star.]

ANOTHER CHANNEL SWIMMER.

[London.

Smillie hustling the miner, who had decided to strike, into his coat again. The workers, according to Low, evidently funked antagonising public opinion. As



London Opinion.]

THE GATHERING CLOUD.

JOHN BULL: "If that storm breaks—Heaven help the country!"



Passing Show.]

[London.

JOHN BULL: "I'd advise you to keep quiet, sonny! This dog takes a lot of waking, but once he's roused he bites!"

events turned out, the miners by a very large majority decided in favour of striking, but once more have been induced to hearken to wiser counsels.

The Council of Action, which aimed to dominate Parliament, comes in for a good deal of hostile criticism, especially



[Westminster Gazette.]

THE EGG-LAYER.

[London.]

THE GOOSE: "All right! If you're tired of eggs—strike!"

by the Tory Press in England. Up to a certain point, John Bull takes little notice of these things, but, as *The Passing Show* points out, when once aroused he is a dangerous man to encounter.

Almost all the cartoonists urge negotiation and conciliation, but quite a number emphasise the fact that in the conferences which take place between the Government, the workers and the employers, the unfortunate consumer is altogether unrepresented.

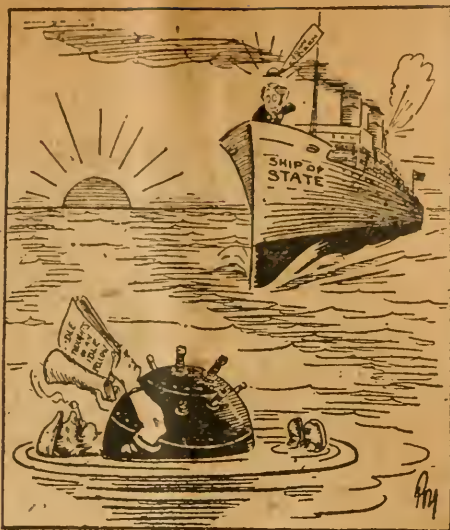


[Passing Show.]

TROY UP-TO-DATE.

[London.]

"The Council of Action—a challenge to the British Constitution—will be nothing more or less than the first Soviet in this country—if it succeeds."

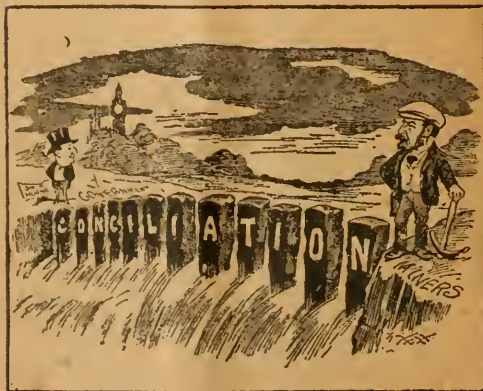


[Evening News.]

[London.]

THE FLOATING MINE-R.

The American papers are mainly concerned with the Presidential election, and only touch on European matters in so far as these effect the issue between Republican and Democrat. W. J. Bryan still affords the cartoonists an admirable foil for their wit. The astonishing thing is that this perennial politician and prohibitionist, although not taken very seriously in the United States, still has enormous influence there. He is recognised as a man of principle, is still the finest orator in the country, and knows the methods of the political machine from A to Z.



[Reynolds's Newspaper.]

[London.]

A SERMON IN STONES.

Who will take the first step?

MEN OF MARK.

THAT DARE-DEVIL D'ANNUNZIO.

The French noun *abandon*, and the English adjective "abandoned" represent the Latin and the Anglo-Saxon ways of estimating a man like Gabriele d'Annunzio. He is an exquisite artist, whom English people would probably send to asylum, or to prison; and even in Australia, with all our contempt for "wowers," we probably have enough of the old ideals of chastity left in us to rebel against the sexual orgies of his writings. The Italians themselves reached the end of their endurance when d'Annunzio dared to depict, as the central figure of one of these ecstasies of lust, their favourite actress. They cried out against his vileness, and made his life so uncomfortable that he was glad to go into exile in France.

Yet no critic denies the gorgeous beauty of d'Annunzio's writings.

As some see in his romances and plays that *abandon* which is the soul of art, while others are more impressed with a sense of hellish abandonment, so there are divergent estimates of his political life. To many he is the dare-all soldier, airman, filibuster, who refused to heed obstacles, or to count consequences once he had devoted himself to the cause of Italian imperialism. In that he is held to have represented the noblest that is in the Latin race. But the English cartoonist who made him appear as a small boy, crowing in cocksure defiance from the top of a sand castle—while his elders looked on with patient tolerance—probably hit off the prosaic northern view of his adventure. The downfall of his sand castle has been predicted time and again. For the present it still stands, and d'Annunzio crows louder than ever. As recorded in the last issue of STEAD'S, he has had the temerity to command the death of a pacifist fellow-countryman, who is expected to visit Fiume.

Whether his power rests on any solid foundation it is difficult to say. His own

claim is that the people of Fiume voted for Italian rule by almost unanimous plebiscite. But others declare that the voters were terrorised by his troops. It is certainly not likely that he is popular with the non-Italian populace, but he has been able to convince visitors that he commands the complete devotion of the Italians of Fiume. Dr. Ferrara, a professor at the university of Havana, described, as recently as May last, scenes of intense enthusiasm he had witnessed. He told of two companies of Alpinos coming to join d'Annunzio's little army, which numbered, all told, about 10,000 men. The soldiers of the garrison and the new arrivals embraced one another, while citizens—men, women and children—wept for joy. A still more exciting spectacle, says Dr. Ferrara, was that at the Verdi theatre, where, in honour of these two Alpine companies which had deserted the Italian army to join the garrison, one of d'Annunzio's own plays was being staged:—

The theatre was crowded almost from the moment the doors were opened, and at the fall of the curtain on the first act d'Annunzio entered. From a box on the second tier above the stage there suddenly appeared the figure of a man who presented less the idea of a military hero than of one who had passed his mature life in the salon and in the library.

The applause was deafening. Women, wounded soldiers in great numbers, and the actors, who reappeared on the stage with the flags of Fiume and of Italy, all took part in the demonstration. By raising his right hand the poet indicated his desire to speak, and after silence was gained he exclaimed: "Let us discontinue this tedious tragedy and sing our happy war hymns."

For upwards of an hour a unanimous chorus lifted its voice to heaven with a devotion that recalled the Sunday ecclesiastical functions of the smaller Italian cities. d'Annunzio joined with strong voice, and lent greater expression to his song by suitable and vigorous gestures. . . . At 2 a.m. the spectators left, still singing their war hymns with the fervour of the initiated.

The writer of this article was told that the Italian Government was pro-

viding the funds to pay d'Annunzio's troops. He declares that no Government could rule in Italy that failed to regard the Fiume dispute from the "Italian" standpoint. It will be remembered that the Italian Government, after a long pretence of opposition to d'Annunzio's adventure, admitted the real fact by announcing its intention to withdraw the support it had given him. In spite of what Dr. Ferrara says, it hardly seems likely that the present Prime Minister, Giolitti, would take the "Italian"—that is the imperialist—view of the affair. But if all Government support has truly been withdrawn, how is d'Annunzio contriving to carry on?

From the martial Lord of Fiume we return to the Apostle of Venus. The life and writings of d'Annunzio have been described in *Scribner's*, by Joseph Collins, who finds in the sensuous art of the man little justification for hope that he is a true regenerator of his nation.

Gabriele d'Annunzio is said to have been born "somewhere in Italy," near Chieti in the Abruzzi, or at Pescara in the Regno, the old kingdom of Naples, or on board ship in the Adriatic in 1863, or about that year. One day, in his infancy at Ferravilla-on-the-Sea, suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind. From that moment the little Annunciator was filled with the gift of verbal expression. He enhanced his endowment by diligent study in the high school at Prato in Tuscany, where he spent his boyhood. Mr. Collins pictures the boy filled with ambition to rival the great poets in expression, the classical heroes in action. But he must have a philosophy, too. He was attracted by the cult of sensualism. Mr. Collins compares him with Nietzsche:

He, too, taught a master morality, a morality which says yea to life and nay to morals, rules and conventions. Christianity is the moral code of slaves. Instinct is the true wisdom. The genesis instinct is the basis of all other instincts. Therefore cultivate it, for thus one becomes superman and begets a race of supermen. . . .

He has sung the praises of sensualism as they have never been sung in modern times, and he has panoplied the preliminaries to

love's embrace with garlands made of flowers of forced blooming, artificially coloured and perfumed so that the average human being does not recognise them as products of nature. He has preached and practised a moral code the antithesis of Christianity, and yet no one has sought seriously to save his soul.

In truth, d'Annunzio had tired the world of him. When he went to Paris, it seemed to be content that he should disappear in that maelstrom as it had been that a contemporary sensuous ego-centrist should disappear when he left Reading gaol; but d'Annunzio must enter upon the final stage of his mission from the gods, and the Great War gave him the opportunity.

Little is known of d'Annunzio's origin. It is stated by some who claim to know that he is a Jew, but the Jews seem not eager to claim him. Is he an Italian? It was not until the war came that he began to sing the virtues of Italy. In his private relationships he is said to be a rather unpleasant person—disdainful to friend and foe, going among his superiors as if he were their king. But his art is beyond question. He has been called the greatest literary figure of modern Italy, and it is likely that he merits the name.

As a child he was precocious, self-confident, self-centred. His first collection of verses was published when he was fifteen years old. From the beginning it was pointed out by critics that he plagiarised line and verse from poets of Italy and other countries, but if the accusations made any impression on him, it was not evidenced in his future conduct. Before he had reached his majority he was hailed as the coming poet, whose originality (despite plagiarising) was admirable, whose sensuality was shocking but acceptable, whose versatility was marvellous. He worked for a time as a journalist in Rome, but continued his poetical work until he had established his fame to his own satisfaction. Then in 1893 he turned to the field of romance, and for five years flooded Italy with his novels. Of the virtues of these Mr. Collins writes:—

In these volumes the author showed that he had a marvellous capacity to depict states of exalted sensibility; that he had an extraordinary, almost superhuman sensitiveness to beauty as it is revealed in nature and in art; . . . that he had a comprehensive

familiarity with plastic and pictorial art, an intimacy with ancient history and modern literature that was stupendous; and withal a capacity to externalise his visions, his emotional elaboration and his mental content in words so linked together that the very juxtaposition of them is a pleasure to the eye and a satisfaction to the mind. But what he knew best of all was the history of eroticism.

Then we come to the faults—as they appear to us Anglo-Saxons: “He revels in all kinds of perverted emotions. Un-speakable relationships, which the clean-thinking northern mind refuses even to contemplate form the theme of many of his books.” Such things have been expurgated from some of the English translations; but in some cases they are the very essence of the romances. “I doubt,” adds the biographer, “if d’Annunzio ever wrote a word or line in his plays or romances that anyone was the better for having read or heard.

I doubt whether any normal human being, normal physically, mentally and spiritually, can read *Il Piacere* without feeling ill and humiliated, not because of the picture that the author draws of himself in the guise of Andrea Sperelli, this finished expert in the employment of love, nor of Donna Maria, nor of the woman more infernally expert in those matters, nor the score of other characters which he paints with a mas-

ter hand, but because of the way in which he draws his bow across the over-taut strings of sensuousness until they scream and wail in frenzied fashion.”

Like Nietzsche, d’Annunzio looks upon women as creatures of an inferior race. It was not surprising, therefore, that he dared to insult the leading actress of Italy by depicting her as the chief character in one of his sensuous dramas. The male character in the piece was plainly intended to represent himself. His fellow countrymen had taken no offence so long as he portrayed unknown women as his paramours—for he himself was apparently always the hero—but they refused to condone the monstrous affront to their favourite of the stage. He became so unpopular that he left Italy. His offence is not yet forgotten, nor forgiven.

However, the war came with the opportunity for this master of expression to put forth in song the spirit of unrestrained nationalism. He was welcomed by the pro-war party as their prophet. He went into action, too, and won new laurels as an intrepid soldier and flying man. Now, as Lord of Fiume, he has chosen the part marked out for his imperialistic mania. And he seems intent to play the part to the end.

AUSTRALIA BREAKS HER PROMISE.

Expropriating Private Property in New Guinea.

During the war, whenever anyone ventured to oppose the Government, or suggest that its actions were not all they should be, he was immediately accused of being unpatriotic, pro-German, or even worse. Those in authority got into this habit of answering criticism, and some of them, notably the Prime Minister, cannot get out of it. We are still living under the War Precautions Act, which gives the Government practically *carte blanche* to do whatever it likes, but people are slowly waking up to the fact that, the war having been over for two years, they have a right to criticise, and may resent, as they resented before the struggle began, being called unpatriotic and enemy

sympathisers just because they cannot see eye to eye with the Prime Minister. He has lately, in his best manner, been accusing the Melbourne *Argus* of working in the interests of the German settlers in New Guinea, because it had had the temerity to criticise the high-handed doings of the Government in that former German possession. It is high time that he and others realised that legitimate criticism does not mean sympathy with our late enemies, or denote a lack of patriotism.

Patriotism during the war could have been best defined as being complete agreement with those who were ruling Australia by means of the War Precau-

tions Act. That was not real patriotism, however. Those who criticised the Government, and raised their voices against abuses which smirched the honour of the people, were the true patriots, though they usually suffered for their actions. Having been muzzled so long, it is small wonder that few papers or people have ventured to criticise the action of the Government in German New Guinea; but for the good fame of Australia it is highly necessary that light should be thrown on the things that are being done there, and that protests should be made against the arbitrary action of the Government in dealing with the German settlers and their property, before it has the mandate which entrusts it with the care of the country under the general direction of the League of Nations. Surely, until the Mandate is received, it is premature to interfere with the arrangements which were made for carrying on the government of the country during the war. Why should an Expropriation Board be appointed, be rushed hastily up to Rabaul, and immediately set to work to expropriate German property in the territory before the Commonwealth has received authority for dealing with this property? Does it not look as if the Government, fearing that the British authorities intended to respect private property of Germans, was anxious to present the League of Nations and the Home Government with a *fait accompli*?

In our last issue I told of the appointment of Mr. Lucas, late of Burns, Philp and Co., as chairman of the Expropriation Board. He has two colleagues, neither men of anything like his experience. It is provided that two members of the Board form a quorum, and that the chairman has a deliberative and a casting vote. Therefore, if Mr. Lucas so desired, he could always manage to get his own way. Directly he arrived at Rabaul an ordinance, signed by the Administrator, was promulgated, appointing the Board, and setting forth that on publication of the fact in the *Rabaul Gazette*, all property belonging to, or held, or managed for, or on behalf of, the prescribed company, national, or estate, and the right to transfer, manage, and other-

wise deal with that property, shall thereupon vest in the public trustee.

On the same day that this expropriation ordinance was promulgated, two orders appeared in the *Rabaul Gazette*. The first delegated the powers of the public trustee to the Administrator. The second declared eight of the principal German companies to fall within the provisions of the ordinance. The order, in effect, swept away in one fell swoop all the private interests of the majority of Germans in the territory. Although the Germans are thus compelled to hand over their property, they are being forced to remain and work on them for the benefit of the public trustee! Thus they are not only deprived of their property, but they are shackled to it as long as Mr. Lucas—or rather, the Board, pleases. This astonishing condition is set out in Section 14, which declares that once a property is prescribed no person employed upon it shall be discharged or *cease work* without the consent of the Board, on penalty of a fine of £100, or six months imprisonment. That is a pretty strong thing for a Government supposed to be opposed to slavery to sanction, but not content with giving Mr. Lucas power to force the Germans to work, whether they wish to or not, it is endeavouring to induce the unfortunate settlers to bear witness against each other by prescribing heavy penalties if they do not.

This extraordinary provision—an amazing and abominable one for any civilised Government to make—is set out in section 11c. This reads: "Any person, firm or company having knowledge, information or possession of any books, documents or papers, or any record of any transaction in any way relating to any prescribed company, national or estate, shall forthwith supply and deliver all such information and matters to the Board without being required to do so." Failure to comply with this regulation is to be punished by a fine of £500 or imprisonment for one year, or both! We must assume that the Government is responsible for these regulations, although no doubt it has given Mr. Lucas—or rather, the Board—a very free hand. That the Board has the Administrator in its pocket seems clear, otherwise he

would never have endeavoured to protect it by methods which drew forth the sternest criticism from Colonel Hore, Chief Judge of the Central Court in Rabaul. As the incident gives some idea of the high-handed manner in which Mr. Lucas is running things, it is worth recounting.

We have to remember that, although it may not know just what he is doing, the Commonwealth Government is responsible for Mr. Lucas, and must account to the League of Nations for his actions. Yet, these actions are condemned by an Australian judge in Rabaul as "hasty and capricious." It appears that in July, 1919, Hensheim and Co., for the purpose of wiping out a debt, contracted to deliver 500 tons of copra to Messrs. Carpenter & Co., a Sydney firm, with a representative in New Guinea. At the time, Mr. Lucas—or rather, the Board—took over Hensheim's property, 191 of the 500 tons had still to be delivered. Mr. Lucas, however, refused to issue store warrants. Carpenter and Co. immediately issued a summons, applying for the special performance of the debt, and an order restraining the Board from further interference with the contract.

The case was listed for 8 a.m. on the morning of September 25th. At 7.45 a.m.—a quarter of an hour before the court sat—a proclamation was issued by the Administrator, forbidding any party owning claims or in possession of goods pursuant to a contract with a prescribed firm from dealing with them in any way without the written permission of the Expropriation Board. Hasty legislation, indeed! The case came on before the Chief Judge of the Central Court. In his judgment Colonel Hore denied the contention of the Crown that the obligation to deliver did not pass to the Board. "The Board," said the judge, "are evading a legal liability imposed on them by German law without reason. I hold this to be an arbitrary and capricious act, which, by their own showing, cannot be justified." Finally, he gave his opinion that the proclamation so hastily issued fifteen minutes before the case began, did not affect the liability of the Board in the slightest degree. Judgment was entered

for the full amount owing to the plaintiff, with costs against the Board.

Not only ought Australia to await the arrival of the Mandate before interfering with German property, but she is also under a moral obligation to respect it. The Governor of German New Guinea did not surrender unconditionally. He and his officials were to be sent back to Germany, and the property of private persons was to be respected. In passing, it should be observed that General Holmes, in agreeing to these proposals, did nothing more than carry out the provisions of international law, as then understood. It may be argued that, although, through the Australian leader, the Commonwealth bound itself to do certain things, the Peace Treaty overrode every other agreement, and the scrap of paper on which this one was made could be torn up. No doubt that is true enough, but it is, to say the least, unfortunate that Australia should begin administering ex-German territory in the Pacific by repudiating a solemn promise made at the beginning of the war.

After all, although we have perhaps lost sight of the fact, one of the principle objects for which we fought this war was to preserve the sanctity of contracts. We also fought for civilisation, right and justice, and yet we are breaking one of the most hardly won of the rules of warfare—respect of private property. In the old days the conqueror enslaved the vanquished and took his property; nowadays, the vanquished are not enslaved, private property is respected, or at any rate, that was the case until quite recently. It is a grievous thing that a country claiming to be the most democratic and enlightened in the world, should set an example in New Guinea of despoiling private persons, begin its new role in the Pacific by repudiating its undertakings. What will the rest of the world think of Australia, which, at the very moment that the British Government declares its intention of respecting the private property of Germans, is hard at work wresting fine plantations from those who have spent their lives in making them productive?

The position of New Guinea is peculiar. It was a German Colony. The

settlers were German, but they were also citizens of New Guinea. Many of them have lived there for years, and, after six years of Australian rule, are anxious to stay in the country. They may well argue that, if, during the war, they were allowed to remain and work on their plantations without endangering the safety of the country, they might surely be allowed to continue dwelling there, if they were harmless whilst the struggle was raging, and racial bitterness ran high, surely they are harmless now. To insist on turning them out certainly suggests that Australia covets their carefully tended plantations, desires to reap a harvest she never sowed. It is a wrong thing to do. The Mandate has not yet arrived, and the Commonwealth Government has therefore no authority to do it. We forget that New Guinea is not our absolute possession, but is held by us in trust for the League of Nations, of which Germany will before long become a member. The action now being taken by Mr. Lucas—or rather, by his Board—in New Guinea, is a sorry introduction for Australia into world politics, a shocking start for her administration of the territory she holds under trust. Australia looks to play a considerable part in international affairs; but repudiation will hardly assist her in winning to a position of influence in the Pacific.

Having decided on expropriation, what is the Government going to do with the expropriated properties? Is it going to work them, like the New Zealand Government, for the benefit of the natives of New Guinea, or is it going to sell them to the highest bidder? When the German properties in Fiji were sold, the highest bidders were Burns, Philp and Co., and a dummy, put up by the company. Is it not pretty safe to assume that the same company would buy them in? It offered to do so some time ago, and it has plenty of money to outbid any small concern. These German plantations are exceedingly valuable. Coconut palms take many years before they come into full bearing, but more and more of the groves are yielding nuts. When the war began, the annual production of copra was 14,000

tons. To-day, it is 24,000 tons, and very soon it will be over 50,000 tons. During the war the Germans have gone on planting trees steadily. By growing the Java bean, which keeps down the grass in the groves, they have been able to cut the labour needed to keep the plantations in order by two-thirds. Whoever gets these groves will have a splendid property. Burns, Philp and Co. may be a most excellent firm. I know nothing about them. But that any one firm should have a monopoly of the carrying trade of the Pacific Islands, when it is itself a grower of the product it carries, is obviously bad for other producers. Such a firm, Burns, Philp or any other, would be in a position to compel every grower of cocoanuts to sell his copra to it at whatever price it cared to give. If he did not sell at the company's price, he would have his perishable copra left on his hands. There must be competition if the grower of cocoanuts in the Pacific is to get a fair deal, or there must be strict Governmental control.

New Guinea gets most of its supplies from Singapore, and it sends most of its copra to Europe. But the Rangoon rice it needs must all go from Singapore to Sydney to be transhipped there. Its copra destined for Europe, instead of being sent to Singapore for transshipment into homeward bound ships, must all come down to Sydney to catch the homegoing boats. Singapore is one of the cheapest transshipping ports, Sydney one of the most costly in the world. Another instance of the disadvantage under which New Guinea labours by having to ship all its produce by one line of steamers only, was given during the recent shipping strike. Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co. are supposed to run a three-weekly service to Rabaul, and the ship they send is only just able to carry away the copra that has accumulated in the three weeks. The strike prevented the sailing of the usual steamers, with the result that some 6000 tons of copra piled up in New Guinea. A large Japanese vessel, bringing supplies to a Japanese settler, called at Rabaul on its way to Sydney and Melbourne. It could easily have taken a large part of the waiting copra; but

when permission was sought to load this ship with copra, it was refused by the Commonwealth Government. On what grounds it is difficult to imagine!

Surely English, Dutch and Japanese ships ought to be allowed to trade with New Guinea. There are regular lines of Dutch steamers running from Europe to the East Indies; plenty of Japanese vessels pass New Guinea, and English lines run regularly from Europe to India, Singapore and China. If the settlers of New Guinea and Papua are not to be allowed to send their produce, and get their supplies except in certain vessels, then, at any rate, an exceedingly strict control ought to be exercised by the Commonwealth Government. Planters should be guaranteed the world parity for their copra, and a keen eye should be kept on freight rates.

It is interesting to find, that whilst the subsidy the Commonwealth paid the Orient Company for the carriage of the huge mail every fortnight from Australia to England, and from England to Australia—a distance of 13,000 miles—was £170,000 per annum, the amount of subsidy it is at present paying Messrs. Burns, Philp and Co. for carrying a few bags of mail every three weeks from Australia to Port Moresby, the Solomon Islands, and Rabaul, a distance of under 2500 miles, and a monthly service to Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, and the New Hebrides, is no less than £40,000 per annum! We used to hear a lot about subsidised German steamship lines, which, thanks to the subsidy—so we are told—were able to outbid British lines for freight. What about the Burns Philp subsidy given to a line whose competitors have been carefully eliminated, and which enjoys an absolute monopoly of the carrying trade to and from New Guinea?

There is obvious danger of a single powerful company getting control of the splendid plantations of which we are despoiling the Germans, and our legislators ought to see to it that such a monopoly is not established. If, going counter to the announced British policy, if, ignoring our own undertaking made six years ago, we refuse to recognise property rights in New Guinea,

we ought, at least, to see to it that the expropriated plantations are retained by the Government, or go to private individuals, not to a monopolistic trust or company.

In his minority report, on late German New Guinea, Judge Murray strongly endorsed the suggestion concerning the property of Germans which had been put forward by General Johnston, at that time Administrator of the territory. This is to the effect that the property of the four big Companies, and their subsidiary Companies, should be nationalised, and be carried on by the Commonwealth as a Government business, but that all the private owners be permitted to continue in undisturbed occupancy of their present interest. General Johnston, however, proposed nationalisation as a temporary measure only, and that later the estates should be disposed of to private purchasers. Judge Murray's advice is that all the property resumed should be permanently managed by the Government, in the public interest.

In their majority report, the two other Commissioners, Messrs. Atlee Hunt, and W. H. Lucas, obviously approve the expropriation of all German property. This property would be valued according to the laws of Australia, and the amount of the valuation credited to the fund for meeting Germany's obligations to the Allies. They emphasise the fact that Australia will not have to pay a penny piece to the dispossessed Germans; these unfortunates must look to the German Government for compensation—a Government practically bankrupt. They strongly advise against nationalisation, nor do they approve the leasing of these lands. They recommend instead, that, after being expropriated, the plantations should be offered for sale to individuals or Companies. They declare that freights can only be kept low if the Federal Government pays a subsidy to a private steamship company, or resigns itself to maintain the service with Commonwealth steamers, at a heavy loss.

Judge Murray urges that if foreign steamers are to be precluded from participating in the trade, the Commonwealth line of steamers should undertake it.



Prince Feisal Goes to London.

The Arab Prince Feisal, who during the war assisted the British Campaign against the Turks, and became Lord of Damascus, but who has since been driven from that city by the French forces, went to London, in September, to plead for the fulfilment of Britain's pledge to the Arabs. In an interview, he said: "Maybe it will be said that the French have been given a mandate, and the question cannot be rediscussed. The word 'mandate,' however, was never mentioned when the Arabs were promised independence. The word was then unknown. Does anybody deny that the Arabs are as capable of government as the Turks? When the Arab provinces were under Turkish domination, Europe never protested. Why should Europe not remain equally disinterested to-day? My countrymen cannot understand the meaning of the mandate. You say that it is a device to assist people in obtaining independence. You must excuse us if we fail to see how a military occupation of 80,000 men, and the overthrow of the Arab Government at Damascus, help us toward that end."

Wages for Prisoners

All convicts in the New Zealand prisons are henceforth to be paid wages for their labour. They will receive each a minimum of 6/- per day, and this may be increased, if the work is considered satisfactory, up to 7/-, at the end of a month, and to 8/-, after the second month. Competent tradesmen, and others whose work is of special value to the department are to receive an additional 2/- per day. The cost of the prisoner's maintenance and supervision by the warders is to be deducted

from his earnings, so that he or his dependants will receive in cash only half of the above rates. Prisoners are to be employed very largely at agricultural work. Their wage is hardly equal to the current wage of farm workers, being only 24/- for a six-day week, plus the meagre prison fare. But it is a notable improvement on the usual practice of depriving a prisoner of all hope of providing anything toward the sustenance of his family.

The Famine in China.

The famine in China is due to a prolonged drought. No rain has fallen for months over an area populated by 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 people. This area is to the south of Peking, and mostly north of the Yellow River. Already there had been bad harvests for two years, so that there were no stores of food-stuffs to tide over the present dearth. Thousands of families are migrating to other districts, while many are dying of starvation. A well-known official, Tsao Ju, has given over £200,000 for relief work. Reuter's correspondent at Peking says £20,000,000 is needed.

Diminishing Trade in Britain.

According to *The Times*, the tale of diminishing trade activity is lengthening each week. So great has been the decrease in demand for cotton goods that at the end of September, the Lancashire cotton industry held a conference to discuss the question of short-time work, in order to keep as many factories going as possible. Short-time working has been in operation in the boot and shoe, linen and textile trades for some time, and in the woollen industries manufacturers

have not booked any substantial fresh orders for some time past. A year ago, the motor industry was enjoying an extraordinary degree of prosperity, but it is now in the depths of depression. Foreign competition is beginning to assert itself in the iron and steel trade, which had hitherto a most rosy prospect before it. A year ago, home and foreign buyers ordered goods recklessly, and paid whatever prices were asked. The plain but unpalatable truth of the situation is that prices of commodities have reached a level which the existing volume of credit or buying power is unable to maintain. Indications accumulate of a decline in industrial activity, and a consequent increase in unemployment throughout the whole of Great Britain. Yet, the demand for goods is on a scale never before known. Every nation in Europe wants British goods, but they lack the power to purchase.

The Biggest Boycott Ever Conceived.

There appears a chance that Mr. M. K. Gandhi's non-co-operation campaign in India may be successful, although the leaders in Bengal are apparently opposed to it. At the National Congress recently Mr. Gandhi's appeal swept the gathering, and he secured a majority in favour of non-co-operation of two to one. The boycott is not to be immediate. The recommendation is that a beginning be made with the renunciation of all titles and honorary offices under the Government, and non-participation in Government loans; this to be followed by the gradual withdrawal by lawyers from practice, and the settlement of disputes by arbitration. After that is to come the withdrawal of children from Government schools and students from Government colleges, and then the boycotting of the reformed Councils; revival of the Swadeshi (home industries) movement, and finally a refusal to pay taxes. The boycott, if carried out, would cripple India; railways and telegraphs would cease to work, the revenue would be suspended, commerce would be stopped, and there is a great danger that the excitement of the moment might break out into violence. Mr. Gandhi, who wields a wider and more potent in-

fluence than any other popular agitator, is the kind of man who can raise a whirlwind, but not the kind of man who can ride it.

The Passing of Cassell.

One of the most famous of London publishing firms is to disappear. Messrs. Cassell and Company, of La Belle Sauvage, Ludgate Hill, London, is being purchased by Messrs. W. E. and J. Gomer Berry, who have offered to pay £1 2s. 6d. for the shares of the company, the market price of which for some time has been 15s. The firm of Cassell was founded in 1848 by John Cassell, who started as a Manchester cotton operative. The Berry Bros. already own *The Sunday Times*, *The Financial Times*, *The Graphic* group of newspapers, and are largely interested in other great enterprises. Messrs. Cassell were among the pioneers and most influential disseminators of what is called "popular education." The people sixty years ago were hungry for knowledge, which the State, municipalities and learned corporations did not trouble to place in their way. They were provided with what they wanted by private enterprise and individual effort. Cassell's *Popular Educator*, with its weekly numbers selling at a few pence, was a sort of people's university in the mid-Victorian era. Hundreds of thousands of young people and older men and women perused it with avidity and learned science, geography, history, shorthand, foreign languages, book-keeping and the like from its comprehensive pages.

When the French Surrendered Urfa.

Details are available of the surrender of the French garrison at Urfa to the Turks recently. Urfa, a city 100 miles north-east of Aleppo, was originally occupied by the British. The English commandant tactfully allowed the Turkish Mutasaril to hold nominal office, and matters went on there quite happily. Early in 1920, however, there was a re-assignment of territory, and the British retired, the French taking military possession. They deposed the Mutasaril, and trouble soon began. The Turks became more and more hostile, and finally laid siege to the city. After defending

it for 62 days, the French were forced to surrender, one of the conditions being safe conduct to Jerobalus. They marched out of Urfa, but, ten miles from the city, were attacked by over 3000 Kurds, and 350 were killed. The rest were made prisoners. The Turks professed ignorance of all treachery. A party of Americans who had been engaged in providing relief for the district went through the siege, but were allowed to depart unmolested by the Turks, when they took the town.

How Britain Financed General Alexieff.

General Alexieff was one of the first of the many anti-Bolshevik leaders who received British and Allied support. He failed, as his successors have failed, but at the time his prospects were declared to be bright. The British Auditor-General has been asking some awkward questions concerning a large sum of money, which was advanced by the Foreign Office to the general. The total sum involved is about £2,468,000. The Foreign Office appears to have lost a file, which would have thrown a good deal of light on the transaction! Its representative informed the Auditor-General that, at the time, it was very important to retain German forces as much as possible on the Eastern Front, a German offensive on the West in 1918 being anticipated. The only way of doing this was to maintain a strong Russian army under Alexieff capable of taking the offensive against the Austro-German forces. As currency could not be sent direct to him, a scheme was evolved to make the resources of the South-Eastern Confederacy, on whose territory Alexieff was then operating, available as currency through the machinery of a Cossack State bank. In the event, the Cossack bank was never set up, but, apparently, the money was actually paid, but on whose authority, and whether anything was done with it which was of use to the cause of the Allies, does not appear. Some of the money, £500,000, seems to have been given as a loan to a Russian financier on the security of shares in commercial concerns valued at 35,000,000 roubles, and another sum of £418,000 was used for buying shares in the Siberian Bank, the securi-

ties of which are still held by the British Treasury, which it still fondly hopes can be realised!

Coal Profits.

The coal-miners claim that the surplus profits of their industry will amount to £66,000,000 this year. Mr. Frank Hodges, secretary of the Miners' Federation, published a statement giving the figures. According to this, the owners received a total annual profit of £100,000,000, made up of guaranteed profits (£26,000,000), profits on coke and by-products (£8,000,000), and "yearly surplus between total price and total costs, after providing for guaranteed profits" (£66,000,000). The Board of Trade has issued a very different set of figures. According to it, the surplus for the three months, April, May and June, after charges, interest, depreciation, capital adjustments and the owners' fixed profits had been deducted, amounted to only £750,000. Since then, the price of coal has been raised, but the Board estimates that the total surplus for the year at the new rate would be £32,000,000. The proposed increase in miners' wages would cost the industry £27,000,000, and the reduction in price of 14s. 2d. a ton demanded by the men would deplete its income by £36,000,000 in the year. An expert in *The Economist* says that the actual gross profits of the first six months of this year were £22,000,000, but confirms the Board of Trade's figures for the whole year, viz., a net profit of £32,000,000 above the guaranteed profits of £26,000,000. Apparently, therefore, the miners' estimate that the surplus profits will be twice as great as the Board of Trade and mining experts imagine. The difference is probably due to the fact that the miners do not include such items as depreciation in their calculations. As every ton of coal taken out diminishes a mine's value, depreciation is a very important charge. The average wage of coal getters—the highest-paid miners of all, all over England—works out at 21s. 9d. per day, or £4 15s. per week of five days. A large number of miners were getting considerably less than this, the average wage.

A SUPER-TRUST IN GERMANY.

Mr. R. E. C. Long is always well-informed, and has always something of interest to tell in the articles he contributes to the magazines. A letter from him on "The All-German Industrial Trust," which appears in *The Fortnightly Review*, gives the first detailed account of the methods the Germans are adopting to meet the industrial conditions created by the war and the Peace Treaty I have seen. That something very drastic had to be done was obvious to everybody, but just how the Germans were going to tackle the problem was a matter of speculation. According to Mr. Long, the system they have adopted has been worked out to the smallest detail, and within a few months will be in full working operation. Its dominant feature is the union of all the trusts into a single trust, which will control production, industry and commerce throughout the whole of Germany.

It was Dr. Walther Rathenay who proposed that national industry should be handled "in the way in which it would be handled if a single millionaire or bank purchased all the producing concerns of Germany, and set himself to combine them in a single concern."

Unnoticed by the outside world, this process of trust-creation has already gone pretty far; the three greatest branches of raw material production—coal, potash and iron—have for some time past been working as All-German trusts; coal-tar has followed; an All-German paper trust is already fully planned; and All-German trusts for textiles, chemicals, potteries, wood and about fifteen other industries, have been considered, and duly allotted their places in the All-German trust scheme.

But these trusts, big as they are, do not exhaust the plan. They are to be mitigated by a separate parallel social organisation, the function of which is to ensure a fair equilibrium between economic exigencies and social needs.

Each of these two branches of the "Plan-Industry" is highly complicated and differentiated. The typical All-German Trust is not to be a simple combine of a whole branch of industry producing uniform goods. It is to ramify down into smaller trusts embracing more specialised, smaller branches; and further to have appended to it an organisation for controlling the whole

foreign trade in its branch and sub-branches. The parallel chain of social organisations is also to consist of numerous ramifications; all, first, on territorial lines; secondly, on the lines of division between employers and employed. Finally, the two chains of organisations—the trust organisations and the social organisations—are to meet in, and be together controlled by, a supreme representative body. This body, the Federal Economic Council, last month held its first sessions; and it already bids fair to eclipse the Reichstag in all matters that concern finance, industry and trade.

In England, the attempt of Labour to dictate to Parliament was greatly resented throughout the kingdom. In Germany, labour and capital acting together are apparently determined to dominate Parliament, and actually to control the country. German economists, even the most socialistic, have become convinced that in present conditions, Socialism whether in the form of nationalisation or communism is impossible, but they are also convinced that the pre-war system of unorganised competing production cannot be restored. Socialism, says Mr. Long, of the ordinary type, is dead in Germany, and it is not Socialism, but the entirely compulsory combination of all-German trusts which holds the field. Some form of industrial organisation was absolutely necessary, and this accounts for the easy way in which the compulsory trust won the approval of all parties. What was known as the *Zwangswirtschaft*, established during the war, was virtually nationalisation, and it got itself detested by all classes. To continue it was admittedly impossible, but a substitute had to be found. This substitute is the "plan industry," with its system of interlinked trusts. The chief creator of the system was the engineer, Wichard von Moellendorff, who was Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Industry last year. The memoranda he submitted to the Cabinet are probably the most remarkable State papers published on an economic theme in modern times.

They lay down two main principles. First is self-government, which, as a foil to the bureaucratic *Zwangswirtschaft*, means that every industry, organised compulsorily as a trust, shall govern itself, leaving to the State

only the powers of ultimate control which it has always possessed. Ownership of the trusted concerns remains in present hands. Self-government is to be carried on jointly by employers, employees, and the consumer, united in a representative council, which stands above and separate from the trust. The consumer is the immediate consumer, e.g., in the council governing the now existing All-German Iron and Steel Trust, the consumer is the finishing manufacturer who uses iron or steel. The second principle is expressed in the German word *Gemeinschaft*, here meaning common action by employers and employees in the interest of harmony. During the war were formed, first, an *Arbeitsgemeinschaft* of employers all over Germany; secondly, an *Arbeitsgemeinschaft* of all employees; and in 1918, on top of these, arose a joint *Arbeitsgemeinschaft* for both employers and employees, the function of which is to influence production in the whole national interest, and to find compromise lines where the national interest is threatened by the inevitable opposition of interests between employers and employed.

The system provides for a Supreme Parliament of industry, trade, finance and labour matters, separate from the political Parliament. This has taken shape in the new Federal Economical Council already referred to.

Under this scheme Germany gets—(1) A supreme representative directorate for economic matters of all kinds, and for social questions in so far as these arise out of economic matters; (2) immediately subordinate to this directorate, a chain of trusts, each for a particular branch of production; (3) also immediately subordinate to the directorate and running parallel to the Trust chain, a chain of social councils, elected territorially, which handle labour and allied questions in general without dealing with particular industries. In the original Moellendorff scheme, yet another group of organisations ran directly into the Federal Economical Council. This group consisted of chambers of consumers. Nothing has so far been done to realise this; but the consumers are represented in the councils governing the separate trusts, and also directly in the Federal Council.

Mr. Long gives a description of the Iron Industry Union, which he regards as the best type of the all-German trust. It is a principle of industrial self-government that each branch should be governed at the centre of production, and not at Berlin. The union is divided into two organisations, the first the trust proper, which is purely the producing and trading concern; its function is to regulate the distribution between its members of raw materials, to regulate

production, to further efficiency and economy, the standardisation and division of labour with the aim of lower prices, to re-organise sale, eliminate unnecessary competition, and to promote practical scientific research.

In all these matters the trust is merely executor. The regulations which it executes are laid down by its representative council, officially called the Iron Plenary Assembly. This assembly is composed of 70 members, all of whom are elected by companies and classes engaged in the production, sale, or consumption of iron. Iron production sends to the Assembly 34 members, the iron trade 12, and the iron consumer 24. In the elections in all three groups employers and employed have equal power. This equality of power runs through all the other innumerable councils, which make up the "Plan-Industry," and is an essential feature of *Arbeitsgemeinschaft*; so that employers in all three groups elect 35 members and employees 35. The 17 representatives of employers engaged in production are elected by the Pig-Iron Syndicate (which continues to exist as a private corporation), by rolling mill companies, and by other producing interests; the six representatives of employers in the trade are elected by iron traders' private associations; and the 12 representatives of employers in consumption are elected by the State iron-buying departments (chiefly the railway department), by shipbuilders, motor-car builders, boiler-makers, and other finishing manufacturers. The general public is not represented in its capacity of consumer. The 35 representatives of workmen, technical employees, and clerks employed by producers, traders, and consumers are elected by their Trade Unions and other class associations.

Membership in the iron trust is compulsory. No firm or company is allowed to remain outside, although they all retain their separate managements, and their separate finances, and property rights remain intact. The Iron Parliament described is under State supervision, and a State Commissioner resides at Dusseldorf, and acts as intermediary between the Parliament and trust on one side, and the Government on the other.

In general, however, the Parliament has large powers. It directs the whole country's iron and steel production and trade; it fixes prices, which count as compulsory prices under the price-fixing laws passed during the war; and it regulates delivery conditions. Iron is very short in Germany—as a rule until lately it could be had only at about 1000 marks a ton (nearly 100 per cent.) more than the prices sanctioned by the Government. To remedy this, the Iron Parliament lays down the maximum permissible export—according to a new rule, 20 per cent. of the total out-

put. It can seize iron or steel from any company which neglects to fulfil its obligations to supply the home market; and it can compel the subordinate trust or the individual companies composing the trust to supply information or figures. It controls exchange matters arising out of iron export; and can compel companies to devote foreign payments to paying for foreign ore or food. It can equalise production costs. At present (or rather before the recent mark exchange recovery) companies smelting native ore, such as the Siegerland and Silesian companies, produce pig-iron much more cheaply than companies smelting imported ore. The Iron Parliament can divert the former companies' extra profits to cheapening the latter's production costs. Financially, the Parliament is not supported by the trust; so, to cover its expenses, it taxes the trusted companies, and further levies export licence fees. Agreements and actions which violate its decrees are void; and it can impose heavy fines on, or even bring about the imprisonment of the heads of, offending concerns.

Parallel with the industrial and commercial side of the "Plan-Industry" is the social side. This, at present, is only partially created.

It is based ultimately on small organisations representing employers and employed; and it is organised upwards in increasing territorial units until it embraces the whole Republic. The employers' smallest local organisations exist so far only unofficially—all over Germany are local employers' associations. The workmen's smallest local organisations are the Factory Councils, created by the law of last February. This law enacts that every industrial undertaking employing more than 20 workmen shall have a workmen's council (*Arbeiterrat*), which is to represent the employees' interests, and to work with the employer in the general interest of production. The councils are given considerable powers, including the power to look into accounts; but they are not allowed to dictate policy to the employers; and it is to the employers that the execution of all measures decided on jointly by employers and employees are left. The factory councils and the associations of employers will elect delegates to a higher joint body, a County (*Besirk*) Economical Council, which is provided for in the constitution. The function of the County Economical Council is to deal with the general social aspects of industry, but not with particular branches of industry; it will enquire into and regulate labour supply, industrial housing and health, and it will have the right to suggest Labour-Social reforms to the Federal Economical Council. Like the trust councils and the committees which govern the foreign trade departments, the County Councils are pledged to work in the general national interest, and not merely to favour capital or labour or both. Above the County Councils are to be two

bodies, which do not yet officially exist, a Federal Chamber of Employers, representing capital all over Germany, and a Federal Chamber of Employed; and these two chambers will ultimately join in the Federal Economical Council; and there meet the parallel organisation of interlinked trusts. With this doubly organised into a social and into a purely technical and commercial system, the "Plan-Industry" is complete.

It was soon found that other economical branches besides the industrial would have to be brought in to the Federal Economical Council, and the scheme is now expanding rapidly. Already, the "Plan-Industry" principles are pushing themselves far beyond the original proposed limits, and it is evident that the trust system, with its self-government and collaboration of employers and employees, must ultimately be enforced on banking, insurance, and every other form of economic activity. The Federal Economical Council sits at Berlin, its membership numbering 326, who are organised in separate groups representing separate interests, industrial, commercial and financial.

Agriculture and industry, as the two greatest interests, have each 68 members. Thirty-four members are elected by communications; 36 by handwork; 30 by consumers of all kinds; and 16 by the liberal professions and the officials. In all these groups the *Gemeinschaft* principle is followed by dividing the seats equally between the employers and employed. Twelve delegates have been nominated by the Reichsrat to represent the particular business interests of different provinces; and the central Government has nominated twelve from among persons of distinction in the financial, industrial and commercial world. The manner of election of each group is enacted in the council law. I omit it owing to its great length and minuteness; but, in general, it recognises existing official and private organisations of the different interests, including the Trades Unions, and it fits more or less closely to the under-structure of the "Plan-Industry" which I have described. In all respects, except that it has only advisory powers, the Council is a Parliament. Its members have the immunity privileges of *Reichstag* members, and cannot be punished for their utterances; it sits in public; and it has certain rights against the political Government. The political government (members of which have a right to address the Council) must not submit to the *Reichstag* any Bill affecting industrial, commercial, financial and social matters in the Council's competence until the bill has first been considered by the Council; the Council has the right to draft its own bills concerning these matters, and to require

their submission to the *Reichstag*; and it appoints a committee of its own, which is a sort of Cabinet which the political ministers must advise with before issuing ordinances affecting the execution of laws already in force. That out of these rights a well-constituted and capably-led Council may extract greater than merely advisory powers is foreseen by critics of the scheme. In a Germany without army, fleet, foreign policy, colonies and race questions, business matters will easily dominate all others; and it is the Council which has first say in these matters.

The Federal Economical Council was completed before many of the subordinate parts of the "Plan-Industry" scheme were ready. The scheme, says Mr.

Long, is not popular. Conservatives dislike it, and many business men still hanker after the old industrial freedom, or, if they must have trusts, prefer free trusts to the present compulsory trusts. The Modern Socialists launched the scheme, but regard it without love, and only proposed it because they were convinced that nationalisation would fail.

The whole scheme is nevertheless a striking instance of the old, unquenchable German passion for logically complete and symmetrical organisation; and, as an intellectual achievement, it is a long way ahead of any plan of industrial organisation launched elsewhere in Europe in recent times.

AN AMERICAN IN POLAND.

Mr. Nelson Collins, who did great work in connection with the United States Shipping Board during the war, recently joined up with the American Red Cross and went to Poland in charge of relief there. He contributes an interesting article to *The Atlantic Monthly*, describing his experiences.

The Poles, he says, were not fighting the Bolsheviks; they were fighting the Russians. They hate them so much that it makes no difference to them whether they are Bolsheviks or anti-Bolsheviks. "After all, a Bolshevik is only a Russian and a peasant; what can you expect of that combination? Denekine's men were just as bad as the Bolsheviks." The Poles are supposed to be acting as a bulwark against the advance of Bolshevism into Europe. Actually, they are fighting their old oppressors, they are not fighting as the defenders of an outraged world's civilisation against a new system of physical torture and property perversion. Their great hate is for Russia in general.

Even a Bolshevik would resent their ignoring of Bolshevism. By the time a Pole has exhausted the possibilities of aversion in the nature of a Russian and the nature of a Jew, he would have to drain his being to find bile for a Bolshevik simply as a Bolshevik.

He went to Kieff when it was in Pilsudski's hands, and noted that the Polish army was a very young one, consisting of youths of sixteen or seventeen. Poland was using her very first supply of manhood after the drain of the world

war for this new fighting instead of having them in the fields, the mills and the higher schools. Half the Polish soldiers along the long stretch of track from Warsaw to Kieff had United States army jackets and buttons. Large letters, "U.S." were on the haversacks of the men who pursued the retreating Bolsheviks. The United States Eagle did very well as the Polish Eagle emblem. In the army were Poles who had fought on the Western Front in the German forces, and Poles who had joined up with the Canadians and had gone through the campaign in France. It appears that the best soldiers in Pilsudski's armies were those drawn from Prussian Posen, men who had been conscripted and had served with the Germans.

He found Kieff intact, its population of more than a million was underfed, but by no means starved.

The metropolis had had six governments in three years, old Russian, German, Ukrainian, new reactionary Russian, Bolshevik, and now Polish. One business building was razed to its foundations, near the Opera, and five others had been gutted, apparently with hand-grenades, at one time or another during the three years. The facades stood. Much window-glass was gone, and had been replaced with veneers of board, and there were frequent-bullet chips in the brick.

There was any amount of sugar, any amount of butter to be had, and plenty of fresh milk. Sugar was served out with a shovel, or by the handful. There was serious talk of sending sugar to the United States.

You could get a ton of it for a few pounds of salt or some flour. All the way down from Warsaw, for several hundred miles, white bread excellently baked had been plentiful in the little shops; eggs, too, and excellent sausages. Near Kieff, bread died out and sugar became the staple.

Women at the stations offered great plates of butter for a little salt. Salt had been supplied to this part of Russia from Poland, and the supply had been cut off during the fighting with the Ukrainians a year ago. In the public market I bought two large potatoes, boiled first, and then fried a rich brown all over, piping hot, for five marks. The ice-cream between wafers was eight marks. Eggs were five marks apiece, and rather scarce. Pork and rabbit and some beef, a few geese, and a few chickens were on sale at possible prices. Fresh radishes sold at three marks for a big bunch—the large variety, made as God made Hampshire strawberries, with enough flavour for the size. Young onions were three marks a bundle. Fresh milk was not expensive. Sauerkraut, beets, Dill pickles were in good supply. These things were all on sale in a cheap market, where only very ordinary people gathered. For twenty Polish marks I could make a meal there. The United States dollar was worth two hundred marks. But I do not see how a workingman in Kieff earning forty marks a day or a hundred marks—estimates varied, but never reached the hundred—could feed and house and clothe himself and his family. That is the right basis of consideration.

The people, however, did not look emaciated, as they did in Vienna. The refugees were not tragic figures; they were not acutely miserable. The Poles were using the Jews as street scavengers, and showed almost as much hate for them as for the Russians. The attitude of American Jews who visited the country towards their own race in Poland was one of frank dismay.

I talked in Kovno with a New York Jew who had been living in this district for seven years, having returned just before the Great War. "What my people need here," said he, with a wry movement of the mouth, "is a regiment of ten thousand barbers as shock troops, several gangs of American college hazers to tear the long, greasy black coats, or nightgowns, or whatever you call them, off their backs, and the little round caps off their heads, and a whole army of plumbers to build baths for them."

In Warsaw, in Lemberg, and in other cities, Mr. Collins saw evidence of the work of restoration. The Poles, in accordance with the best modern standards, were establishing hospitals and rebuilding factories. The printing presses were turning out an abundant supply of ancient and modern Polish literature and technical books. Mr. Collins saw many Bolshevik prisoners in camps, on the march and in hospital.

I sized up their faces and their bodies. They seemed to me much like the general run of men: about the same proportion of obvious louts, of fairly intelligent and of quite intelligent young men, that one would see anywhere in central Europe. Their bodies seemed, in about equal proportions, of the draught-horse and the race-horse types. They were warier in war than the young Poles, older by a few years as a general thing, and had been longer in the ordeal of campaigns. But my belief in the Russian, which has to run hand in hand with my belief in the enormous slap-dash efficacy of the American public-school system as it might be applied to run him through the hopper, was not affected, or, rather, disaffected, by anything I saw of Bolshevik Russians, or by any reasoned contrast I drew between them and the Poles who were fighting them, much as I have always liked and respected the Pole.

ST. JEANNE D'ARC AS A SOLDIER.

One of the most romantic and captivating figures of history—Jeanne d'Arc, La Pucelle—was recently canonised, and the occasion called forth many articles from those who had been fascinated by her story, and had studied her wonderful career. Not a few attempted to explain her marvellous success by attributing to others the victories she won. No one, however, who has read the old chronicles, biassed and garbled as they are, can fail to recognise that it was the Maid who freed France from the oppressor, whose fearless conduct won

back the throne for a weak and despicable king. Thwarted on every side by those she came to save, she yet carried out the divine mission entrusted to her, and was never greater than when, forsaken by her craven sovereign, charged with witchcraft before a hostile tribunal, she confounded her judges, by her simplicity, truth and honesty. When only nineteen she was burned at the stake, a crime which can never be forgiven, but the nation responsible for her death was never again able to retrieve the position she had wrenched

from it, or regain its foothold on her fair land of France.

But, whilst many of her eulogisers claim that it was her inspiring example that made possible the defeat of the English, few but assume that the military successes achieved were due to the valiant leaders who fought nominally under her orders. Actually victory on the field of battle was due to her direct leadership. It was when her plans were upset by whose duty it was to aid her that complete success was not won. This is well brought out by Captain E. W. Sheppard in *The National Review*. "He remarks on the curious fact that her historians should have been so generally directed to the psychological and mystical side of her character, where data and conclusions must of necessity remain tentative and obscure to the neglect of her career as a warrior and a leader.

For the Maid of France was primarily concerned with a purely military task—the expulsion of the English invaders from France; she employed in its fulfilment none but military means; she won in her short and meteoric career a series of victories of which any soldier might well have been proud, and which would, in any other person, have established a claim to military talent of high order; and she eventually met in the field of battle a soldier's misfortune, which should have entitled her to a soldier's treatment at the hands of her enemies. She remains for all time an outstanding military figure in a period fruitful in warriors, if somewhat barren in generals. Yet, there is no book in English which deals primarily with this phase of her career.

He then briefly sketches the position in France when the Maid set out from Domremy on her glorious mission. The country was leaderless, disheartened, hopeless. All North-Eastern France as far as the line of the Loire, all North-Western France as far as the Norman and Breton Marches, and a great slice of the finest provinces in the South were in the hands of the English. Disorder, jealousy and self-seeking racked the ranks of French Royalists from end to end. Small bodies of English troops could move with impunity about the country, so great was their military prowess, and so complete their moral ascendancy.

The English leaders in France had brought the art of defensive tactics to such a pitch of perfection that they could on a favour-

able field make practically sure of victory. Their practice was to offer battle with their backs against some impassable obstacle, so as to avoid any possibility of their being turned or assailed in the rear, while the front was held by archers and dismounted men-at-arms fighting behind a hedge of stakes sharpened and planted in the ground; a small reserve was held back to reinforce any threatened or wavering points in the front. As against these tactics the French usually had recourse to a mounted attack by their first line of mounted troops, followed by other successive assaults by the second and third lines, should the first fail. Such headlong and ill-considered measures proved successful against the stubborn English defence only when the latter had not been allowed sufficient time to complete their preparation for battle. The mounted charge was seldom effectively prepared by the fire of the French archers, who were inferior to their adversaries both in armament and skill; and the failure of the first line of the French, which, as a rule, numbered in its ranks the pick of the host, usually had the effect of disheartening the succeeding attacks even to the point of preventing them being delivered at all. The net result of a series of unhappy experiences had been to rob the French of confidence in the efficiency of their offensive tactics, without inspiring in them any clear ideas as to the possible means of improving them.

Captain Sheppard tells how the Maid marched into besieged Orleans, and of how her plans for dealing a decisive blow against the investing English army were frustrated by the French leaders, how their own plan would have failed had it not been for the reinforcements which Jeanne brought up at the decisive moment. Instead of attacking on the north bank, as she urged, the attack was delivered on the south bank.

The attack began on May 6th. The Maid showed herself a great captain in battle, and it is agreed by all historians that the victory was in reality hers. It was she who overcame the panic which occurred as the result of an English counter-attack from the Augustins and led the final successful assault. It was she who on the morrow refused to pay heed to the counsels of the faint-hearted captains, content with this half success; it was she who, despite their resolve of the evening of the 6th to abstain from further attacks, led out the communal militia to the attack of the Tourelles, thus compelling the rest of the army for very shame to follow her example. In so acting, Jeanne did but follow the excellent maxim that the best is the enemy of the good, and that it is better consistently to pursue a mediocre plan to its end than to be constantly vacillating between one or other of several, perhaps better, schemes.

The Tourelles fell, after fierce and desperate fighting, into the hands of the French, thanks again largely to the moral ascendancy and bold personal example of the Maid; and the south bank of the Loire was once for all clear of the enemy. But, despite this great advantage gained, the chance of striking at and annihilating the main enemy force had passed. Early next morning, before the French had recovered from their exhaustion and losses and could take steps to prevent them, the English leaders drew off their troops, burned their works, and marched away to the north.

So great was the victory that the fact that, had her counsel been fully followed, a whole English army must have been annihilated, with all the moral effect of such a victory throughout both France and Britain, was forgotten in the glory of her actual triumph. But the English, under Talbot, who had withdrawn soon junctioned with another army under Fastolf, and had to be reckoned with. Talbot and Fastolf were two of the most dreaded of the English leaders, whose names alone struck terror into the hearts of their opponents. But the Maid knew no fear. "Strike boldly," she said, "and the enemy will take flight." General Dragomiroff, the Russian, who has written the best account of her military achievements, describes her brilliant and masterly campaign against Talbot and Fastolf as follows:—

Only on June 10th were her hands freed and permission given her to march with Alençon's army against the English garrisons on the Loire. On the 14th she took Jargeau by storm; on the 15th the bridgehead of Meung; on the 17th Beaugency; and on the 18th she defeated Talbot and Fastolf in a pitched battle. The result of these five days—two assaults and one battle—was not unworthy of Napoleon himself, and was a measure of the Maid's powers when she was allowed their free and untrammelled exercise.

This was the first and only campaign in which she was allowed a free hand. General Canonge, a French officer who has already published a study of the Maid as a soldier, writes:—

With Jeanne the conception and the execution are worthy of each other. The dominating idea is that of an audacious and persevering offensive, as with Napoleon, fixing the enemy, allowing him no time for deliberation and breaking him both materially and morally. The execution, forcible as it is, is in full accord with the circumstances.

Had she been allowed to march on Paris after having crowned her King at

Rheims, the demoralisation of the English armies would have been completed. Instead, Charles delayed, and hesitated, and the opportunity was lost.

When at last the French army was concentrated before the western front of Paris, the English defensive preparations were sufficiently complete to enable them to deal with the assault, led gallantly, but in vain, by the Maid in person, and in the course of which she was (for the third time in her life) wounded. The ill-success of this attempt, though it only urged on Jeanne to demand its resumption next day, took all the little remaining heart out of Charles and his advisers. The army was withdrawn to Compiegne, and, on the news of the return of the Duke of Bedford from Normandy, to the Loire, where it was disbanded. The miserable poltroonery of its leadership had lost France the finest possible chance of finishing off the campaign of 1429 with a decisive victory. It had, however, done more than this: it had sickened of service in the King's cause the one devoted and unselfish leader who was still capable of arousing the love and ardour of the soldiers and people of France.

In explaining her military successes Captain Sheppard says: "She had first, to a supreme degree, that faith in herself, her cause and her God, which enabled her to face undaunted any difficulty and any obstacle. Nothing seemed too hard for her to attempt, nothing impossible for her to accomplish; and therefore difficulties melted away before her and everything became possible in very deed."

Because she believed in victory, she inspired that faith in others; because she could thus uplift and hearten her followers, they too became invincible under her leadership, even as was she under the help of her God. Again, no one ever could, and no one ever did, accuse the Maid of self-seeking or ambition. She herself said that, had she been permitted, she would rather have kept sheep than ridden forth with the armies. But, having entered on her divine mission, she pursued it heart and soul, living only for it, never for herself; anxious only when it was in jeopardy; wrathful only when it was obstructed. Such sublime idealism was incomprehensible to the selfish, intriguing courtiers of the King, who thought of nothing but their own ease and advancement; but the common people heard her gladly, believed in her, and under her banner went forward to victory.

This faith, this singleness of mind, inspired in her the cult of the offensive, the habit of flying direct at her aim, of dealing first and at once with the main strength of the enemy, whether that strength was the mass of an army, the chief stronghold of a province or the capital of the country. However great the

odds against her, she could conceive of no possible failure, and therefore of no reason for delays or half-measures. She saw but her main objective and went straight for it; more, she carried with her the King, the army and the nation. Small wonder that in this child, who burst upon them like a thunderbolt of war, the English saw something portentous, and believed themselves to be at grips with a power more than human. And indeed such singleness of heart, such courage, such faith have not again been found among men.

The Maid possessed strategical and tactical insight well above that of the

majority of her fellow leaders, and where differences arose between her and the trained and experienced soldiers who controlled the French forces, facts almost invariably proved Jeanne to have been right and the soldiers to have been wrong:—

Jeanne's military wisdom, surprising as it is, is perhaps no more so than the justness of her political views and her insight into character, nor more susceptible of explanation. The facts are there; we can but register them and wonder.

HUMOURS OF JUSTICE IN PALESTINE.

Mr. Horace B. Samuel, a British lawyer, acted as President of the Court of First Instance—the equivalent of a British High Court judge—in Palestine for a year and a-half, and tells in *The Nineteenth Century*, of some of his queer experiences whilst dispensing justice. The judicial system in Palestine consists of first, the Court of the Civil Magistrate, who is a Palestinian, and hears cases up to £50, and the less serious criminal charges. Then comes the Court of First Instance, consisting of a British judge, who sits alone, and hears appeals from the Magistrates' Court and exercises independent jurisdiction in all civil cases over £50, and in crimes of intermediate gravity. Finally there is the Court of Appeal, which sits at Jerusalem and consists of a British presiding judge and two Palestinian judges. It hears appeals and acts as a travelling Assize Court. The system has been slightly altered recently to permit of two Palestinian judges being added to the Court of First Instance, which now deals with all Assize crime cases. Questions of divorce and inheritance are decided by the religious or Sharieh judge, from whom there is an appeal to the Sharieh Court of Appeal in Jerusalem.

The two main complications with which a British judge is confronted are—(a) the local languages, Arabic and Hebrew, (b) the Ottoman Law. Persevering shamelessly in both languages, speaking them ruthlessly in and out of place, endeavouring to conduct cases in them as a kind of experimental lesson, and linguistically running before I was qualified to walk, I succeeded in acquiring a working knowledge of both tongues in a reasonably short space of time. This, in my opinion, is essential. Otherwise one is left

helpless to the only too tender mercies of the interpreter, always prone to take an excessive intelligent interest in the case, and anxious to assist one—if not rigorously checked—to the point of considering himself a junior member of the Court, and conducting the whole case himself, with all the energy of his usually youthful intelligence.

The Ottoman law offers little difficulty. There are comparatively few codes or statutes. Founded on the French it is on the whole modern and practical. The *Mejelle*, or Civil Code, however, is archaic in many respects, and from a European point of view childish and impossible.

Particularly strange are those provisions in the rules of evidence—I always religiously disregarded them—which prescribe that the testimony of the relatives of the parties should not merely be scrutinised with suspicion, but is, *ipso facto*, inadmissible.

Equally interesting is the proviso which makes inadmissible the evidence of any person who has enmity with one of the parties. As Arab social life consists largely of one unending chain of vendettas, intrigues and animosities, scrupulously carried into the third and fourth generations of those that hate you, the possibilities of this proviso are really infinite.

Perhaps the most sensible article in the Civil Code is that which prohibits the judge from sitting when disqualified by any violent emotion, such as hunger, grief, or excessive sleepiness.

One of the most difficult problems which confronted the British Administration was that of *baksheesh*.

Under the Turkish regime *baksheesh* was, if not absolutely *de rigueur*, at any rate, conventional etiquette among all Government officials, and so long as the operation was conducted with sufficient discretion, a Turkish official was no more insulted at being *baksheeshed* than a European waiter or cloakroom attendant would resent being

tipped. In fact, so engrained was this habit of corruption in the innermost ethos of the Arab, that even under the British regime one frequently encounters cases of irregularity.

Mr. Samuel personally had to prosecute the Moslem religious judge of Tiberias on charges of embezzlement, and tells of an Arab Execution Officer, a man of some standing, who, convicted of false statement with the object of getting money, applied shortly afterwards for his old post, apparently regarding this sort of thing as in no way disqualifying him as a judicial officer!

Needless to say, false testimony is more frequent even than in Europe. The important distinction is that it is expected, and taken rather as a matter of course, as a perfectly normal occurrence. At times, moreover, if properly cross-examined, the witness will collapse, and own up to his lie with the naive simplicity of a child detected in fibbing.

Two refreshing instances come to my mind. In one case an aged peasant in the Safed District brought a criminal action against another peasant for stealing two kids. The defendant, convicted by the Magistrate, appealed to me. I cross-examined the prosecutor at some length, with the result that he eventually admitted that the defendant had stolen only one kid.

"In that case, why on earth did you say that he had stolen two kids?"

"Perhaps I was angry," he answered with candour.

Almost equally delightful is the case of a Christian Arab of Acre, who, on being sued on a bill of exchange, protested that he had paid the debt, that he possessed the receipt at home, and finally, on my cross-examining him further, and offering to adjourn the case to enable him to fetch the receipt, suddenly said: "I don't want an adjournment—I owe the money—all I said before was mere words."

Official encouragement to lie is given by the Ottoman practice, as the actual parties are not regarded as witnesses, and the criminal code gives them perfect liberty to lie as much as they like in defence of their own liberty or honour, or the liberty and honour of their kith and kin. The launching of false cases, both civil and criminal, is a national industry, a national sport, and a national art.

"You don't know our country, you don't know to what a pitch of perfection we have reduced it," remarked to me on one occasion one of my Arab colleagues in the Court of Appeal. "We have centuries and centuries of experience—why, we even bring false charges after we are dead," and he pro-

ceeded to narrate the story of a celebrated artificer of false charges in Basra, who on his deathbed, called together the chief notables of the countryside, confessed his misdeeds, and requested them to gibbet his corpse after his death at the cross-roads by way of a posthumous penance and manifestation of remorse, with the result that they were duly hanged themselves for the apparent murder which they had never committed.

Firearms, being prohibited, and tobacco being contraband, the planting of these things on the premises of their pet enemies is a favourite pastime of both fellaheen and effendis. Sex cases are frequent. The Ottoman law regards free love as a criminal offence, not merely as a ground for a civil action, and the husband, father or guardian of the woman may prosecute. Many cases are settled out of court, especially in cattle-stealing actions. The victim is usually so overjoyed at the prospect of recovering the stolen animal, that he will gladly compound the felony, and refrain from prosecuting.

There exists of course a local Bar, and it may be said with accuracy, and without offence, that their methods are radically different from those of their European colleagues. In certain cases they are concerned more with technicalities than realities. The most extreme length to which I have known this mania for technicalities extending is instanced by the case of the advocate who appealed *against* his client's condemnation to four months' imprisonment for theft, on the ground that, according to the code, he ought to have been given at least a year.

The Bedouins, he says, are all illiterate. Each tribe, however, has its professional scribe. Slavery flourishes amongst them, but the slaves are well treated, and often have as great influence as the masters themselves. The chief occupation of the Bedouins is the breeding and "lifting" of cattle. They engage in constant raids, and not infrequently indulge in private wars amongst themselves.

So powerful, moreover, are the Bedouins, and so terrified are the inhabitants of Bedouin revenge, that it is frequently almost as difficult to obtain true witness of crimes actually committed, as it is easy to obtain false witnesses for concocted charges. The custom of the blood-feud still flourishes vigorously among the Bedouins, the passion of revenge retaining its red-hot temperature over an almost indefinitely protracted period,

in the psychological thermos-flask of their barbaric souls.

After an interval of forty years a Bedouin once slew an enemy. "Why be in such a hurry?" remarked his wife.

Religion plays an important role in Arab life. The official minimum sentence for blasphemy is three months, and prosecutions are frequent.

It is contrary to etiquette to insult, assault or kill your enemy without at the same time cursing his religion. So inrooted is this habit that not infrequently the cursing of the religion takes place even though both the parties belong to the same sect.

Drunkenness, though not as frequent as in England, flourishes, nevertheless, to a limited

extent, in spite of the prohibition by the Koran. Arak is the favourite beverage, though the smoking of hasheesh is also fashionable.

Jews rarely bring their disputes to the courts, but have them adjusted before special Jewish arbitration tribunals. In conclusion, Mr. Samuel thus describes the Arab mind:—

Perhaps one may say that while the American mind moves in a series of dashes, the British mind in a series of straight lines, and the German mind in a series of heavy mathematical squares, the Arab mind moves instinctively in a prolonged series of extremely devious curves.

THE DERELICT "POLLY."

That fact is indeed stranger than fiction is well demonstrated by the series of articles which Ralph D. Paine is contributing to *The Century*. He tells in them of "Lost Ships and Lonely Seas," these tales being the result of his research among the old records of shipwreck and disaster. The subject of his first article is the disaster which overwhelmed the brig *Polly*, which left Boston Harbour in December, 1811, bound for Santa Cruz, with lumber and salted provisions for the slaves on the sugar plantations.

On this tragic voyage she carried a small crew, Captain W. L. Cazneau, a mate, four sailors, and a cook who was a native Indian. No mention is to be found of any ill omens that forecasted disaster, such as a black cat, or a cross-eyed Finn in the fore-castle. Two passengers were on board, "Mr. J. S. Hunt and a negro girl nine years old."

When less than a week on the way to Santa Cruz, she was overwhelmed in a storm, dismasted, and water-logged. When, at last, the stormy daylight came, Mr. Hunt had disappeared, but the coloured child was found huddled in a corner, though she lived but a few hours. The *Polly* could not sink, but drifted a mere bundle of boards, with the ocean winds and currents, while seven men tenaciously fought off death and prayed for rescue. A keg of water containing thirty gallons was all there was to drink, and to eat they had a single barrel of salt pork, the only thing rescued from the cargo which floated

out through the shattered stern of the vessel.

The diet of meat pickled in brine aggravated the thirst of these castaways. For twelve days they chewed on this salty raw stuff, and then the Indian cook, Moho by name, actually succeeded in kindling a fire by rubbing two sticks together in some abstruse manner handed down by his ancestors. By splitting pine spars and a bit of oaken rail he was able to find in the heart of them wood that had not been dampened by the sea, and he sweated and grunted until the great deed was done. It was a trick that he was not at all sure of repeating unless the conditions were singularly favourable. Fortunately for the hapless crew of the *Polly*, their Puritan grandsires had failed in their amiable endeavour to exterminate the aborigine.

For fifty days the derelict drifted away from the trade routes to Europe into trackless spaces beneath the tropic sun. At the end of those days of hardship and toil, the mate languished and died, although a man of robust constitution, who had spent his life in fishing on the grand banks. He appeared the most capable of withstanding the shocks of misfortune of any of the crew, but he was the first to fall, a sacrifice to hunger, thirst and exposure.

Singularly enough, the next to go was a young seaman, spare and active, who was also a fisherman by trade. His name was Howe. He survived six days longer than the mate, and "likewise died delirious and in dreadful distress." Fleeting thunder-showers came to save the others, and they had caught a large shark by means of a running bowline slipped over his tail while he nosed about the weedy hull. This they cut up and doled out for many days. It was certain, however, that

unless they could obtain water to drink they would soon be all dead men on the *Polly*.

The captain was a man of extraordinary resource and resolution, and his unbreakable will to live and to endure sustained his shipmates. By that time, a famished wraith of a man, he kept his wits and knew what to do with them.

At length he took an iron pot from the galley, turned the tea-kettle upside down on it, and found that the rims failed to fit together. Undismayed, the skipper whittled a wooden collar with a seaman's sheath-knife, and so joined the pot and the kettle. With strips and cloth and pitch scraped from the deck-beams, he was able to make a tight union where his round wooden frame set into the flaring rim of the pot. Then he knocked off the stock of the pistol and had the long barrel to use for a tube. This he rammed into the nozzle of the tea-kettle, and calked them as well as he could. The result was a crude apparatus for distilling sea-water, when placed upon the bricked oven of the galley.

Imagine those three surviving seamen and the stolid redskin of a cook watching the skipper while he methodically tinkered and puttered. It was absolutely the one and final chance of salvation. Their lips were black and cracked and swollen, their tongues lolled, and they could no more than wheeze when they tried to talk. Together they lifted the precious contrivance of the pot and the kettle and tottered with it to the galley. There was an abundance of fuel from the lumber, which was hauled through a hatch, and dried on deck. Soon the steam was gushing from the pistol-barrel, and they poured cool salt water over the upturned spout of the tea kettle to cause condensation. Fresh water trickled from the end of the pistol-barrel, and they caught it in a tin cup. It was scarcely more than a drop at a time, but they stoked the oven and lugged buckets of salt water, watch and watch, by night and day. They roused in their sleep to go on with the task with a sort of dumb instinct. They were like wretched automata.

The pistol had been found under the water in the hold. Its flint and steel offered them a less precarious way of making fire than that of rubbing dry

sticks together. Enough distilled water was secured to enable them to continue to live and suffer and hope. In the warm seas, barnacles grew fast, and the men scraped them off and ate them, mostly raw, because cooking interfered with the tiny trickle of condensed water. The Indian cook was the next to go, then another seaman. The brig was now drifting in the Sargossa Sea, the dread of sailing-ships, but to the captain and his two seamen the dreaded sea was beneficent. The stagnant weed swarmed with fish, and gaudy crabs and mollusks.

Here was food to be had for the mere harvesting of it. They hauled masses of weed over the broken bulwarks and picked off the crabs by hundreds. Fishing gear was an easy problem for these handy sailor-men. They had found nails enough; they were hand-forged and malleable. In the galley they heated and hammered them to make fish-hooks, and the lines were of small stuff "unrove" from a length of halyard. And so they caught fish and cooked them when the oven could be spared. Otherwise they ate them raw, which was not distasteful after they had become accustomed to it. The natives of the Hawaiian Islands prefer their fish that way. Besides this, they split a large number of small fish and dried them in the hot sun upon the roof of their shelter. The sea-salt which collected in the bottom of the still was rubbed into the fish. It was a bitter condiment, but it helped to preserve them against spoiling.

The most amazing aspect of the experience was that the men remained sane. When at last, they were picked up by three ships in company, the *Polly* had been drifting about for exactly six months, and during that time she had covered over 2000 miles, something over ten miles a day. The case of the *Polly* must be unique; it seems incredible that anyone could have existed for six months on a broken ship, which carried neither water nor food.

The Serbians have evolved an ambitious scheme to transform Belgrade into a great city. Ten thousand houses are to be erected. The plans for these have been drawn up by Austrian and German architects and engineers, who are at present in Belgrade in connection with the matter.

The number of coal-miners in Great Britain in 1913 was 1,110,000; this year the number has increased by 96,000 to 1,206,000. The output in 1913 was 287,500,000 tons; the estimated output for 1920 is 240,500,000 tons—a decrease of 47,000,000 tons, with 96,000 more men at work on the job.

THE MORALS OF LOOT.

Robert Young, editor of *The Japan Chronicle*, is a merciless critic. He spares neither Jew nor Gentile. When he writes on the "morals of loot," he is just as severe on white looters as on those of Asia, on looting missionaries as on pillaging soldiers. The text for his present article is the restoration to China of the astronomical instruments seized by the German troops from the walls of Peking after the Boxer rising. It may be pertinent to note this as China's share in the "reparations" won from Germany; in addition, China gained the remission of the balance of her Boxer indemnity due to Germany. But, though she was nominally one of the Allies, she lost more than she gained, having to yield to Japan the practical control over a province as large and as populous as England and Wales.

However, it is not conquest but loot in the proper sense that forms the subject of this article. When the Allies (including Germany) took Peking in 1900 the Germans took possession of a part of the astronomical instruments constructed by the Jesuit Fathers in China in the seventeenth century and erected on the walls of Peking. These historical relics were taken from China and presented to a German musician by Count Von Waldersee, who was in command of the German force. It has been described as an act of vandalism, and it was the subject of censure in Germany as well as elsewhere. Very little defence can be offered for it, the only excuse being that Germany had suffered heavily by the murder of her Minister, Baron Von Ketteler, in Peking.

This is an excuse rather than a justification, says the editor of *The Japan Chronicle*. But to a cynical mind it must be amusing to read the denunciations of this act of "vandalism" that have appeared in *The Times* and other journals in view of the looting by which China has been a sufferer at the hands of the Western nations, whenever military measures have been directed against her:

The classic example of the loot of artistic treasures is to be found in the sack of the Summer Palace outside Peking by the troops

of the Anglo-French expedition of 1860. As part of the penalty laid upon China for the action which led to that war, it was decided by Lord Elgin, in charge of the expedition, that the Emperor's Summer Palace should be razed to the ground. Even before this was decided upon, however, the palace had been already looted.

Pillaging and sacking often go together, and the morals of the two processes seem to be interrelated. So the writer reviews the arguments offered in justification of the burning of the Summer Palace:—

Mr. Poole is contemptuous of those who condemn the burning of the group of buildings with their artistic treasures. "From the dilettanti's point of view, it was an act of vandalism," he says, "from that of sound policy in China, it was statesmanlike." Sir Harry Parkes justifies the burning on the ground that the British prisoners "were taken in the first instance, and put to torture by direction of the Court itself." By way of further condonation he adds: "The Allied troops had already plundered these palaces, or several of them, and some said it was an ignoble sort of revenge on that account; but there appeared to be no other choice than the destruction of the palace within the city (which had not been looted), and, considering that Yuen Ming Yuen (the Summer Palace) was the scene of the atrocities committed on our countrymen, I consider it was the proper one of the two to make a monumental ruin of." The reasoning here would seem to imply that when a building had already been plundered by soldiers, the only logical course is to complete the destruction as an act of retribution. An example of loot where even the plea of avenging a wrong is absent, is the case of the Korean pagoda appropriated by Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household Department, after the "protectorate" of Korea had been declared.

Having successively trounced German, French, British and Japanese military looters, this impartial chastiser turns to the missionaries and diplomats. And here we find that Americans are no more immaculate than our peoples of the Old World. The most unqualified justification of looting ever made (we are told) was that put forward by the Christian missionaries in China in Boxer year. They not only excused looting—they indulged. One of them, Dr. Ament, spoke of the looting as a "reprisal" against officials who had persecuted Christian converts. The missionaries had diplomatic backing:—

As a matter of fact, the tribute expeditions of the missionaries were encouraged and endorsed by Mr. Conger, the U.S. Minister, who, on his return to New York, held a sale of the results of his own efforts in this direction, which was openly advertised as "Loot from Peking." The Rev A. H. Smith, well known as the author of *Chinese Characteristics*, condoned the action of his fellow missionaries in a letter to a Shanghai paper. The Rev. Gilbert Reid, whose name, by the way, became familiar as a controversialist during the late war, described one of his expeditions with great glee as follows:—

"Loot No. 4.—One day I learned that the house of another Cabinet Minister, also chief of the Boxers, Kang Yi, was being looted. Now, that gentleman had been one of my friends. I decided to investigate. The servants kindly told me that I had better take a few things before others came. I also thought that this was wise. I therefore loaded up a cart. Unfortunately, the house was in the British section; the Anglo-American alliance was no good, and my loot was 'no good.' The English Police Commissioner stopped my course, seized my goods (for they were mine then) and informally arrested me. At the time he utterly failed to treat me as a worthy man in respectable society. He required a voucher from the British Prime Minister. As I had already established a reputation for being the champion looter (surpassed by many others since) the voucher was not hard to get, and my loot was restored to 'its rightful owner.' I was convinced that Kang Yi would be pleased, if he only knew. As I now view the matter, I erred in not letting the British—or the Police Commissioner—loot the whole. In fact, in a few days, the British took the house (and everything therein) officially over.

Mark Twain wrote about these lootings. He seems to have had a more tender conscience than the soldiers, diplomats and missionaries, and the recollection of his criticism in *The North American Review* is interesting: "Dr. Ament's financial feat of squeezing a thirteen-fold indemnity out of the pauper peasants to square other people's offences, thus condemning them and their women and innocent little children to inevitable starvation and lingering death, in order that the blood-money so acquired might 'be used for the propagation of the Gospel,' does not flutter my serenity; although the act and the words, taken together, concrete a blasphemy so hideous and so colossal that without doubt its mate is not findable in the history of this or any other age."

In concluding his notes on the "morals of loot," the editor aims an arrow at the Allies' peace terms of 1919. Though the subject of loot is not mentioned in the League Covenant which was included in the Peace Treaty, the other parts of the Treaty had no difficulty in adjusting the matter. This writer is a persistent critic of the expropriating clauses of the Treaty, which it appears that Britain (unlike Australia) has agreed to renounce.

HOW SINN FEIN GOVERNS.

It is not easy for a government to prosper when some of its Cabinet Ministers are in prison, when its financing is thwarted by confiscation, and its administration of justice by the arrest of the judges, when every move is opposed by a foreign army of occupation. Despite such opposition Sinn Fein has been striving during the past eighteen months to establish a government—with what success is told by James Carty in the *New York Nation*. He sums up in the words of Sir Horace Plunket: "Sinn Fein is effectively taking over the executive and judicial functions of government. It has become the *de facto* government in three-quarters of Ireland." But when the effort began in January, 1919, many Republicans seriously doubted whether anything really con-

structive could be done. The dislocating elements seemed too strong. Important ministers and officials, whose personal direction was needed, were continually being arrested. Major Barton, Director of Agriculture and originator of the Land Bank, was put to stone-breaking in Portland prison; Blythe, Director of Trade and Industries, and Cosgrave, Minister for Local Government, also were put under lock and key; and, according to Mr. Carty's statement, the army of occupation have orders to shoot at sight Michael Collins, Minister of Finance.

Sinn Fein appealed to the people for a loan. Twenty newspapers were suppressed for publishing the appeal, and persons found with prospectuses or receipts were forthwith sent to prison.

Was it possible that people would run their necks into a noose for the privilege of lending their good cash to a Government that was compelled to operate underground? The fact is that they did so. Sinn Fein asked for £250,000; the loan was oversubscribed by £60,000.

Probably the picture of Sinn Fein's success given by Mr. Carty is unduly rosy. He quotes largely from the propaganda organ of the Sinn Fein Government. Bearing this in mind, one may read with interest what is claimed on behalf of the Republican governors:

A commission was appointed to provide land for agriculturists and to allocate disputed lands. It has operated with complete success, and full popular sanction in many Irish counties.

For the first time there is an Irish legislature to tackle this most typical of Irish problems—the pre-republican tendency of landless men to drift into socially useless occupations or to leave Ireland altogether.

To enable farmers to get possession of land for cultivation over £300,000 has been advanced either by the Dail Eirann or by the Sinn Fein National Land Bank. Co-operative fishing is also being encouraged by the Republican Government, the expenditure on this work to date being about £70,000. Motor boats have been purchased, and selected officials are studying trawling methods.

The work of the Sinn Fein law courts is perhaps more remarkable in view of the vigorous measures of suppression taken by the British authorities. Reports of the conflicts between the rival police forces occasionally appear in the cables. Mr. Carty gives a glimpse behind the scenes:—

It was discovered by the Republican Government on June 15 that a secret circular had been sent by Dublin Castle to the British police ordering them to discover "in what areas there had been a decrease in the number of cases brought before the British courts and in what areas Sinn Fein courts had been established." Three days later British cavalry commenced to scour the counties of Cork, Kerry, Sligo, Wexford, Mayo and Clare, where Republican courts were believed to be in most frequent session. A vigorous "law and order" drive commenced. Fourteen officials of justice were seized and taken to gaol. Republican police were conveying two sentenced prisoners to confinement in an automobile at Youghal, County Cork, when a patrol of British cavalry opened fire on them,

(Continued on page xii.)

RELIEF FOR THE CHILDREN OF EUROPE.

It was recently announced in the New Zealand Parliament that £35,000 had been sent from the Dominion for the suffering children of Europe, and that a further £35,000 was about to be sent. New Zealand began later than Australia, and is now well in the lead.

During September and October, the Society of Friends in Melbourne received approximately £1800 for relief work in Europe—mostly in response to the special appeal on behalf of German children. The Society is opening similar work in Sydney and Brisbane.

Statistics are cold, and convey little realisation of the human pain and anxiety in Europe. But it is worth while noting that English publications coming to hand continue to belie the information recently cabled (on the authority of a German doctor) that German children had positively benefited by semi-starvation. It is likely enough that the cabled summary misrepresented the doctor's article. In any case the following extract from an article by Dorothy F. Buxton, in the September issue of *The Contemporary Review* (London) gives a sufficient reply:—

Statistics of disease and mortality prove that the children have suffered to an appalling degree for the last four years. The number of deaths of children between one and five years in Prussia in 1914 was 52,924. In 1918, with the birthrate fallen to 40 per cent. of the 1914 figure, the number of deaths was 61,369. At Mecklenburg-Schwerin, an essentially agricultural district, the number of children between one and five years who died in 1914 was 544; in 1918, 1040; in Mecklenburgh 360 in 1914, and 819 in 1918.

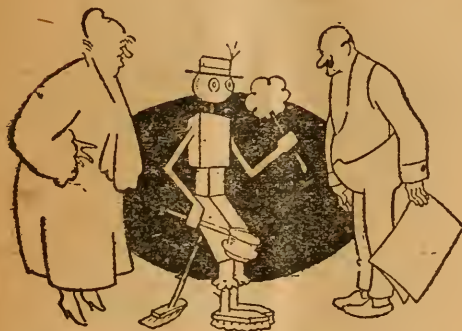
Up to April, 1920, a total of one million children had perished in consequence of privation.

In computing the number of children in Germany now suffering from undernourishment, the writer says: "An estimate of 6,000,000 children, including 2,000,000 of the worst cases, certainly errs on the side of caution."

Comparing Germany with other countries, Dorothy Buxton writes: "The suffering and ruin of these children may indeed be matched, and in individual

(Continued on page xxii.)

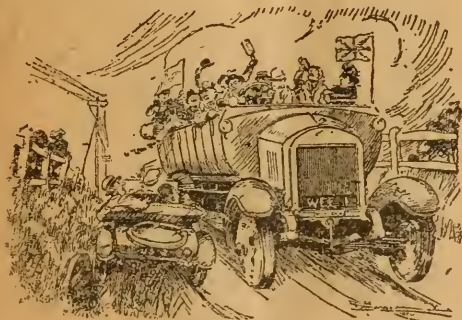
OTHER PEOPLE'S HUMOUR



Sondags Nisse.

[Stockholm.]

HOUSEWIFE: "Adolph, dear, let me introduce you to our new electric maid. You may kiss her as much as you like!"



London Mail.

THE "CARRY-BANG" DRIVER: "Blimey! D'jew want all the road?"



London Opinion.

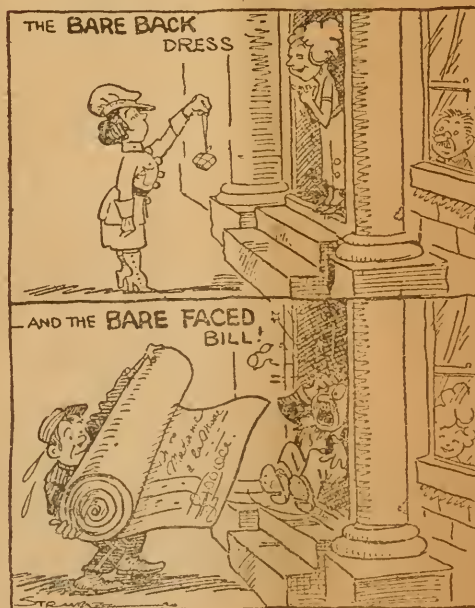
SHE: "Ah, well, it's the last time I'll wear this costume this year."

HE: "But why not have it cut down for a dance frock, dear?"



London Opinion.

"Yer see, if I 'adn't married 'Enery, I'd 'ave 'ad ter buy a donkey ter cart the laundry about."



Daily Express.

[London.]

THE BARE-BACK DRESS—AND THE BARE-FACED BILL.



London Mail.]

"THE PLAY'S THE THING."

SHE: "Now you have looked at my music, what would you like me to play?"

HE: "Oh, bridge or poker."



Passing Show.]

[London.

Scot: "How muckle are thao collars, ma mangle?"

SHOP ASSISTANT: "Two for half-a-crown, sir."

Scot: "And how muckle does ane o' them cost?"

SHOP ASSISTANT: "One and six."

Scot: "Then ah'll hae the other yin!"



London Opinion.]

"How sad the sea sounds this morning, George!"

"Yes, I've just thrown in one of these Australian-mutton sandwiches!"



London Opinion.]

INDIGNANT WICKET-KEEPER: "'Arf a mo—oo's nalled the balls ter my 'at?"



London Mail.]

THE BETTER HALF: "I see a man at Newcastle has got into trouble by marrying four women."

THE WORSE HALF (getting a bit of his own back): "A man nearer home got into trouble by marrying only one."



Meggendorfer Blaetter.]

[Munich.

"I wish I knew the way to your heart, Anna."
"If you think it's over my toes you are mistaken."



During August, Finland exported goods to the value of £6,900,000 to Great Britain.

The export of works of art from France has been prohibited by the Government.

A Berlin firm has ordered 200,000 pairs of boots from makers in Northamptonshire, England.

The Roumanian Government has levied an export duty of 20 per cent. on all oil products leaving the country.

The Canadian wheat crop is estimated at 298,000,000 bushels, 105,000,000 bushels more than last year's harvest.

President Wilson is busying himself with writing the diplomatic history of America's participation in the world war.

The German Government has accepted an offer of 2500 milch cows from the American Dairy Cattle Company, in Chicago.

By a small majority, the Grand Lodge of France has declared itself in favour of the admission of women to free-masonry.

M. Krassin, Bolshevik Trade Commissioner, has placed large orders for agricultural machinery in Czechoslovakia.

The record on the regular Paris-Brussels aerial route is one hour five minutes. The distance between the two cities is 145 miles.

Thirty British naval airmen have been engaged as instructors in the Japanese navy, and leave for Japan early next year.

The cost of elementary education in England has risen from £4 16s. 4d. per child in 1913-14 to £10 11s. 4d. in the current year.

The Czecho-Slovak Government has expropriated approximately 3,000,000 acres from large estates for the creation of peasant holdings.

It is reported that Russian agents have purchased large quantities of arms and ammunition in Germany, and are sending them to Russia by sea.

According to German reports, rich deposits of gold have been found in different parts of Russia. Placer gold has been discovered in the Ussuri district of the Imen Basin in Siberia.

The surrender of German arms has progressed satisfactorily, and by the end of this month, it is expected that Germany will possess no guns beyond those allowed by the Treaty.

Sir William Meyer, who for many years has been Financial Member of the Viceroy's Council in India, has been appointed First High Commissioner for India in Great Britain.

Peace between Finland and the Soviet Government of Russia has been practically concluded. Finland obtains Petchanga, but cedes no territory to Russia as compensation.

The Bahamas Assembly has ratified the customs' agreement between Canada and the West Indies, which fixes the preference rate at 25 per cent. instead of the previous 10 per cent.

Lord Hardinge, Permanent Secretary of the Foreign Office, who followed

Lord Minto as Viceroy of India, has been appointed British Ambassador to France in succession to Lord Derby.

The possibility of building a tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar is again being discussed. If it were built, and the connecting railways completed, London would be only eight days from Cape Town.

The American Government has given postal contracts totalling £197,000 to the aircraft company, which is running a service from Pittsburgh to St. Louis, New York to Chicago, and New York to Atlanta (Georgia).

The total debt of India now amounts to £411,004,985. Most of this amount, viz., £298,556,185, has been incurred in connection with railways and irrigation. Only £77,139,800 has been borrowed for non-productive purposes.

A French court-martial, held at Memel (formerly a town of East Prussia, now in the hands of the Allies), sentenced a German Privy Councillor to two months' imprisonment, and a fine of £10 because an aeroplane was found on his estate.

The recent reduction in the fare for the air journey between London and Paris from 15 to 10 guineas, brought a material increase in traffic. Next year, the single fare is to be seven guineas. During September last, just over 1000 people travelled by air from London to Paris.

The price of milk has been slightly reduced in England, and is to be somewhat cheaper still. In October, 1919, it was 11d. a quart, in October this year, it was 10d., and the Dairy-men's Federation decided that next March it is still to be 10d. as against 1s. a quart charged in 1919.

In France, the price of petrol varies from 4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d. per gallon. In Spain, it sells at 4s. 6d. per gallon; in Rotterdam, a recent rise of 8d. per gallon has brought up the price to 3s. 4½d. In England, the price is 4s. 3½d. per gallon; in Denmark, it is 3s. 8½d.; in Toronto, it is 2s. 4d.; in America, it is 2s. 2d.

A gigantic German field gun was recently placed on the Horseguards' Parade in London. It is 25 feet long, has a 12-inch bore, and is mounted on

a massive limber about 40 feet in length, with hugh iron wheels. It is said to have a range of from 20 to 25 miles, but, apparently, has never been used in warfare.

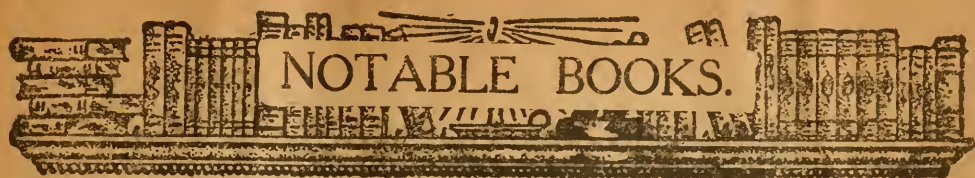
Taxes levied on mechanically-propelled vehicles in England will, it is estimated, provide a sum of nearly £10,000,000, which is to be used for the improvement of the roads of the country. A further sum of £30,000,000 is being spent on the construction of new roads and the upkeep of those already in existence.

In London, rates are exceedingly heavy. For the present half-year, rates in the parish of Newington will be 10s. 5d. in the £, in St. George's 10s. 6d., in St. Saviour's 10s. 9d., and in Christchurch 11s., an average increase of 2s. 6d. in the £. A tenant in these parishes paying a rent of £100 a year would have to pay more than £50 annually in rates.

Australian Governments might take a lesson from the Palestine Administration. This has prohibited the erection of hoardings for advertisements in any place except the actual premises in which the business advertised is carried on. It has done this with the object of preventing the disfiguration of the country by unsightly advertisements, or still more unsightly hoardings.

A medical officer in Shropshire, England, stated recently that, before the war, of 37,527 children of five years, who had been examined, the teeth of only 5 per cent. were free from decay. Now, no fewer than 44.4 per cent. are free from this trouble. He attributes the improvement to the restriction and modification of food during the war. This suggests that the cause of caries lies in the food, and not in constitutional conditions.

1,200,000 men are receiving pensions in England for disability arising out of the war. Widows, wives, children and other dependents increase the total of pensions to over 3,500,000; that is to say, one out of every 14 of the population. Three-fifths of the total national expenditure before the war, viz., £123,000,000, is now being expended by Great Britain on war disability pensions and allowances.



THE FOREIGN VISITOR.*

A man in the first year of his maturity, thoughtful, travelled, master of languages, and experienced in the manners and customs of many lands, comes to New York. He is the son of an American medical missionary in Morocco, who had become a Moslem, and he himself has been reared in the Mohammedan faith.¹ Now, at length, he visits for the first time his father's land, and, after a period of studious loneliness, he becomes acquainted with a group of zealous young Americans representative of the higher ideals struggling for recognition—a painter, a novelist, a political reformer, a Socialistic and atheistic professor, an efficient practical-minded woman, whose life work is the organisation of the finances of charities upon sound principles—a frail young woman, who makes the text and illustrations for children's books, and whom an incurable malady has doomed to an early death. His entrance into their lives affects markedly the career and character of several of these people; but by carefully subordinating the parts played by the other members of the group to those played by the painter, the charity worker, and the illustrator of children's books, Arthur Bullard has avoided any too close resemblance to *Pippa Passes*, or to *The Passing of the Third Floor Back*.

The nearest literary affiliation of this remarkable novel is to a much older kind of book. It is now nearly three centuries and a-half since Giovanni Paolo Marana started the vogue of what may be called the Letters of a Foreign Visitor type of fiction and satire in his once famous *Espion du Grand Seigneur*, known in English as *The Turkish Spy*. The situation of an intelligent, thoughtful and observant man, placed in the midst of a

civilisation utterly different from that in which he has been brought up, gave excellent opportunity to drive home the lesson of the great diversity and incongruity of the religious beliefs and moral codes of mankind, and of the need to recognise the degree to which individual beliefs and codes are produced by non-rational forces such as race, environment, tradition and education. The corollary that followed from realisation of this fact was the necessity of purging the mind of all ideas due to the accident of historical position; to limit belief to those truths acceptable to all; to acknowledge that manners and modes of thought alien from those to which a certain civilisation has become accustomed may be as valid as, may be nearer the ideal than, those accepted by that civilisation; in a word, to clear the mind of prejudices. Such lines of thought appealed to the cosmopolitanism characteristic of the eighteenth century. In our own time the same train of ideas has been followed successfully by Mr. Lowes Dickinson. It has remained for Mr. Bullard, while discarding the convention of the letter-form, to employ a similar theme brilliantly in a novel dealing with the twentieth-century New York.

For the development of such a theme the author has many happy qualifications. His power of acute observation of modern society was shown in the earlier novels, which he wrote under the pen-name of "Albert Edwards." His knowledge of the ideals of the Moslem world has already appeared in his book, *The Barbary Coast*, written under his own name. The juxtaposition and entanglement of these two conflicting intellectual interests make capital material for fiction. There can be no doubt of the value of such a book in our present pressing need for a cosmopolitan point of

* "The Stranger." By Arthur Bullard. (Macmillan.)

view. The question is whether Mr. Bullard's mind and art are not too refined to enforce his lesson in the virile fashion necessary if it is to command attention.

It would have been easy to evolve from his material a series of harshly satiric rasping scenes filled with crude contrasts of Western with Oriental manners and ideals. Mr. Bullard avoids anything so obvious. There is satire and reproof in plenty, but it is subtle, restrained, often by implication rather than outright, and placed second in interest to the delicate love-story between the Oriental visitor, Donald Lane, and Eunice Bender, who employs her scanty dole of life in fashioning delight for children. From the Stranger the painter who has lost touch with his art through an unfortunate and unsympathetic marriage, gains advice that leads to a drastic but simple solution of his domestic difficulties. From the Stranger the atheistic Socialist learns something both of the Moslem idea of God, and of the practical Socialism of Morocco. Through intercourse with him the successful organiser of charity fin-

ances gets a suspicion of distrust in the all-sufficiency of her gospel of Efficiency. From him the delicately beautiful artist whose work had been looked down upon by her sturdy and practical friend, who had become reconciled to pity as the only meed bestowable upon her, and who is soon to die, learns that there is another ideal possible than the American one of robust physical health, and that into even her wan life love can come.

As Mr. Bullard has avoided the rocks of mere Menckenesque satire, so has he steered clear of the equally dangerous shallow pools of sentimentalism. The beauty in his book has in it no touch of the maudlin. He has not achieved a great book—there are few such in the world—but he has penetrated pretty nearly to the core of some of the counterfeits that time will break. His story is interesting, thoughtful, reasoned, suggestive. It offers the balance of an alien ideal with which to weigh the shibboleths of modern America: education, reform, health, progress, efficiency. S. C. C.

A PERSIAN ODYSSEY.*

General Dunsterville is supposed to be the original of Rudyard Kipling's *Stalky*, whose exploits at school captivated the imagination of a whole generation. He conceived the idea of organising resistance among the Armenians, Georgians, Russians and the Tartars of the Caucasus against Turkish invasion, the object of the scheme being to prevent the Turks from advancing into Persia, and threatening India. He also was anxious to interfere with the Bolshevik plan of raising Turkistan and Afghanistan against the English. The scheme appeared sound and practical at the time, though later experience of the different races inhabiting Transcaucasia showed that they were incapable of cohesion or co-operation. Their rivalries and hatreds were too inveterate, their interests too antagonistic.

Dunsterville's scheme was known in India as the "Hush-hush Expedition."

The sudden appearance of a British force at Baku was the first intimation most people had that there were any Allied troops in the country at all. It is interesting to find that the Australians took part in the campaign. An excellent account of their doings is to be found in the book, *Stalky's Forlorn Hope*, by Captain S. G. Savige, D.S.O., M.C., which has just been published by Alexander McCubbin, at 7s. 6d. This book deals exclusively with the operations which took place in North-Western Persia and Armenia, and is a fine record of wonderful achievement against, apparently, insuperable odds. Captain Savige, by the way, is loud in his praises of General Dunsterville. The General himself in his book naturally covers a great deal more ground. There were many expeditions and branching side-shows, and Captain Savige deals with only one of them. The operations of Dunsterforce prevented the Turks getting through to Persia, checked the Bol-

* "The Adventures of Dunsterforce." By Major-General L. C. Dunsterville. (Arnold, 18/- net.)

shevik propaganda in that country, and protected the flank of the Anglo-Indian force in Mesopotamia.

It is rather a pity that Dunsterville has written the story of the expedition himself, as he naturally dwells little on his own doings, which, after all, supplied the most remarkable and romantic feature of the whole business. Probably, the full details of the adventures of those who undertook the various expeditions in connection with the scheme will never be told; but General Dunsterville, in his book, with the versatility one might expect of him, gives a connected narrative of the shifting nexus of the whole scheme. It is amazing how he adapted his meagre resources to the dictates of circumstance. When he arrived he found the Georgians were already intriguing with the Germans, the Tartars with the Turks, whilst the only Armenians with whom he came into direct contact were the degenerate industrialised rabble of Baku, who could not be persuaded to fight, and whose miserable spirit has earned their country-men a bad name. Dunsterville is a modest writer, but his reticence cannot altogether obscure the wonderful part he himself played. Again and again, as one reads of his extraordinary feats, one is reminded of Stalky and his methods. He is in our mind all through the delicate negotiations at Enzeli, in the conciliation of Comrade Cheliapin, out of whose clutches he ought never to have escaped, but from whom he obtained the petrol necessary for his return journey to Hamadan. He reigns at Hamadan when the 240 miles of road from Kasvin to Kermanshah are being held by 12 officers, two clerks, and an armoured car. A Turkish force was encamped within 100 miles of him; there were Turks in Hamadan and Kasvin; the Persians were hostile almost to a man; a dozen different parties were out for his blood. Yet he lived down insult, menace and obstruction. Propaganda was his only weapon at this time. Practically without troops, he won his points by personality and bluff. The frowns which greeted him he converted into smiles. Stalky, too, pervades Kasvin. His literary creator—or should we say, exploiter?—will delight in the yarn

of the arrest and release of the Rais-i-Telephon. The whole code of Stalkyism is sublimated in these pages. It is the Prussian code inverted, in which tolerance, humour, and *bonhomie* win the day, and above all, a large-hearted sympathetic understanding of the enemy's point of view, and the motives and ideals of offenders.

No one but Stalky could have managed and humoured the Russians. And here, as when he was quoting Sadi to the Governor of Kasvin or Hamadan, he was helped by his wonderful gift of tongues. On the one hand he had the touchiness of the Mensheviks to conciliate, on the other the brutal, ignorant callousness of the Sovietski Vlast. It was difficult sometimes with his *suaviter in modo* to control the indiscretions of his ally's *fortiter in re*. Towards the end of June Stalky was in Enzeli again hobnobbing with the revolutionaries. The committee had dwindled to three. Cheliapin was still one of them. To him was added Lazarev, a young shopkeeper of 30, and Babookh, ex-trumpeter of cavalry.

In the meantime the anti-British agitation all along the line of communications was dying down; the leading agents, Turkish democrats and others, had fled. Hamadan was quiet. At Kasvin the religious leaders had forgotten their fanaticism, and would foregather with Stalky over a brew of tea. From intercepted letters one learnt of Kuchik Khan's complaints that he found it hard to work up any feeling against the British, as they did nothing to arouse the resentment of the people. Stalky's intelligence system, as may be imagined, was a model of its kind. He had an expert in camouflage, and an officer who could produce a list of offenders in which was shown against each name the exact degree of guilt. The Red army in Enzeli gradually became accustomed to Stalky. Towards the end of July Cheliapin, Lazarev, and Babookh, convicted of conspiracy with Kuchik Khan, were arrested and deported, to the great relief of everybody in the town.

When, at the end of July, the long expected *coup d'état* took place at Baku, and the Bolshevik Government there was thrown out, its supplanters sent messages to Dunsterville asking for help. Here

was Stalky's opportunity. His first step was to secure control of the port of Enzeli, then of sufficient shipping to enable him to carry out the evacuation from Baku should circumstances demand it. The situation was delicate, as the Baku Directorate were suspicious, and a large party in the city hostile, and it was essential that we should retain our hold on the vessels so long as the operations continued. Had Stalky not succeeded in holding on to them the British force would have been bottled up in Baku on the fatal day on which the Turks entered the city. As it was, they had to run the gauntlet of the Russian gunboats in effecting the withdrawal. Every step in these transactions was secured by peaceful negotiations. Any attempt at the display of the mailed fist, any action which might have given rise to the suspicion of counter-revolutionary sympathies, would have alienated the fleet and the friendly party in Baku and been fatal to the scheme.

How Stalky got his ships and held on to them in the face of all these obstacles he and his staff alone know. The extrication of his force on the day of catastrophe, notwithstanding the opposition of the Baku Directorate, was a masterly achievement in daring and precaution. Not a man or a gun was left behind. It is to be hoped that the heroic defence of Baku by the 39th Division will find a fitting historian. The story of the fighting is only briefly outlined here. On the day of withdrawal, the 800 or 900 men who composed the firing line had been in the position for six weeks, with little or no support from the Allies they were defending, and during that period they kept at bay a Turkish Army ten times their strength.

While Australian seamen have been protesting against the employment of Japanese crews in the coastal trade, Japanese seamen are being displaced from the ships of their own land, because their wage bill is too high. Several companies are replacing the crews with Chinese. The Japanese sailors appealed to the Government against this policy, but, as far as we have heard, the Chinese still have the berths.

Many people have criticised Dunster-ville for going to Baku at all. It was obviously a forlorn hope, as he had necessarily to rely on the inhabitants for support, and he must have known the feeble purpose of the people he went to assist. Had he succeeded, there would have been no question about the wisdom of the step he took, for the control of Baku meant the control of the Caspian and the blocking of the open door through Krasnovodsk and the Central Asian railway to Turkistan and Afghanistan, while the possession of the oil fields would have paralysed the railways in Transcaucasia, which depended on Baku for fuel. Those who condemned the gallant adventure forgot that when Dunster-ville had originally visited Baku, conditions were very different to those he found when he managed later on to get there with his troops. He declares that if it had been possible to instil the least spirit into the local troops, it would have been possible, even without outside assistance, to have kept the Turk at arm's length, but the rabble that pretended to be an army was hopeless. Cowardice and disobedience were rampant, and there was never a day or a night that there was not a gap of one or two miles in the front line, owing to the failure of local battalions to reach their destination. The failure at Baku has largely overshadowed the solid gains won by the Dunsterforce expedition in Persia and Transcaucasia. General Dunster-ville's book certainly amply justifies the "Hush-hush Expedition," for it indeed achieved remarkable success, achieved it, too, despite the fact that its numbers were so few, and its operations so scattered.

The Belgian Parliament has agreed to give all Belgian soldiers a gratuity of 75 francs for every month they served at the Front, between the outbreak of war, and the date of the Armistice. Those who were in the army, but were not actually fighting at the Front, are to receive a gratuity of 50 francs per month; soldiers who were captured by the Germans are also to receive this gratuity of 50 francs a month.



Q.—How many ships must Germany build for the Allies every year?

A.—The Peace Treaty gives the quantity to be built in tonnage—200,000 tons a year, up to a total of 1,000,000 tons.

Q.—Have the German shipyards sufficient capacity for this amount of building?

A.—More than sufficient. The capacity of the yards was considerably increased during the war, and, besides handing over the 200,000 tons a year to the Allies, the Germans will be able to build 500,000 tons a year for themselves—equivalent to their whole annual output before the war.

Q.—How long will it take Germany to restore her mercantile marine to its strength of pre-war years?

A.—An expert, Arthur Bode, says it will take 16 years. He makes allowance for the restoration of the docks and dredgers surrendered after the Scapa Flow sinkings.

Q.—How many Sinn Fein courts are there in Ireland?

A.—During the last three weeks of July, 80 courts held sessions in 27 counties, of which five were Ulster counties.

Q.—Have you any recent news of the oil pipe line from Havre to Paris, mentioned some time ago in "Stead's"?

A.—The Presidential decree has been signed authorising the construction of this line for pumping crude oil from the coast to Paris. The work is expected to begin this month (November), and to be completed in a year. There will be reservoirs for 60,000 tons of oil, and the pipe will be able to deliver 2400 tons a day.

Q.—Are the British Crown Colonies assisting to bear the burden of war debt?

A.—Ceylon has promised £2,000,000 in instalments covering ten years; Ni-

geria has promised, if she is able, to pay the interest and sinking fund on £6,000,000. The Straits Settlements undertook, in 1916, to pay £200,000 a year for five years, and, if possible, for ten years; they have actually been paying more. Other contributions are:—Gold Coast, £200,000 in ten years; Jamaica, £60,000 a year for 40 years; and small sums from Bermuda, Falkland Islands and Sarawak.

Q.—Are the Northern Territory officials who were expelled from Darwin a year ago still drawing Government pay?

A.—The Director, Mr. H. E. Carey, Judge Bevan and the Government Secretary, Mr. R. J. Evans, were paid until September 22—eleven months after they had left the Territory under threats from local residents. They had refused to resign their appointments unless the Government would compensate them. The claim for compensation was not granted, and the appointments were terminated by the Commonwealth Cabinet. It is expected that the dismissed officials will bring legal action in the matter.

Q.—Will travellers from Australia to New Zealand have to obtain permits now that the New Zealand Government has removed the obligation?

A.—The Commonwealth Government still requires travellers to obtain permits. Until the freedom of travel is made reciprocal, the hindrances will remain much the same as hitherto.

Q.—Are negroes permitted to vote in the United States?

A.—Although the right to vote was nominally granted to negroes after the civil war, it has been taken away by various devices. One method was the "grandfather clause," disfranchising anyone whose grandfather had not had the

right to vote. Nowadays in most of the Southern States a literacy test is imposed for the exclusion of negroes from the ballot. This, of course, disfranchises some whites also. The question of reducing the representation in the Federal Parliament of those States that thus limit their constituencies is now being considered in Washington. The Northern States, as far as we know, allow the coloured people to vote.

Q.—Does Japan get most of her wool from Australia?

A.—In 1918 less than 10 per cent. of her wool imports were from Australia, the amount being 4,445,000 lb. out of a total from all countries of 55,696,000 lb. It is quite likely, however, that the trade, which was diverted to South Africa during the war, will now return to Australia.

Q.—What was the total loss of French population during the war years?

A.—It is estimated that the population diminished by 3,300,000 during the six years from 1914 to 1919. If this estimate is correct, the loss in the civilian population by excess of deaths over births, was even greater than the loss of men in war service. The number of men on active service who were killed, or succumbed to wounds or disease was, in round numbers, 1,500,000. The estimated decrease of 1,800,000 in the civilian populace is based on actual statistics for 77 out of the 87 departments.

Q.—What was the French population before the war?

A.—At the last census (1911) it was 39,601,509.

Q.—Is there any truth in the stories about Haitian natives having been killed by American troops occupying the Republic?

A.—Apparently there is. The *New York Nation*, which is careful of its facts, declares that altogether 3000 men, women and children, innocent for the most part of any offence, have been shot down by American machine gun and rifle bullets. It declares further that "black men and women have been put to torture to make them give information; theft, arson and murder have been committed almost with impunity upon the persons and property of Haitians by

white men wearing the uniform of the United States." During the five years' occupation, although 3000 natives have been killed, fewer than 20 Americans have been killed or wounded in action.

Q.—If this is really true, how was nothing heard about it?

A.—The American administration used the censorship vigorously. The occupation began whilst the war was raging—in May, 1916—and, as we know, it was perfectly possible for those in authority anywhere to suppress and pervert news with impunity. We have become so used to the censorship that we do not object to its being retained in German New Guinea, for instance. It was easy enough for the Americans to keep matters dark. That *The Nation's* charges are true seems probable. Other papers have published similar reports. I have not yet seen the official reply. No doubt it will plead justification.

Q.—Is Haiti an American colony?

A.—No; it is still nominally independent. The people elect their own local Parliament, known as the Chamber of the Communes, which elects the President of the Republic. A treaty with the United States, which was ratified by the Haitian Parliament in November, 1915, establishes an American protectorate over the State. The Americans have entire charge of customs, the finances and the police. It is alleged in some American papers that the private and public finances of the country have been ruined in order to establish a financial monopoly in favour of the National City Bank of New York.

Q.—Why did the United States take control of the Republic?

A.—Nominally to put its finances in order, actually no doubt for strategical reasons, to make sure that no foreign Power took possession of it, and used it as a base for attack on the Panama Canal. Before occupying Haiti the United States had taken charge of Santo Domingo, the other Republic on the Island.

Q.—Does the Republic of Haiti not occupy the whole of the Island of Haiti?

A.—No; it occupies about a third of it only, being situated at the western

end. Santo Domingo has the eastern part. The whole Island covers 28,249 square miles. It was discovered by Columbus on December 2nd, 1492, and was named Hispaniola by him. It lies between Puerto Rico, which now belongs to the United States and Jamaica, which still belongs to Great Britain. At the Peace of Ryswick, in 1697, the French secured the eastern half, and in 1795, by treaty with Spain, secured the whole island. It was invaded by a British force in 1798, but the people, who, meanwhile, had been granted French citizenship, led by Toussaint l'Ouverture, drove them out, Toussaint, one of the most romantic heroes of modern time, established a constitutional government, and was appointed Governor for life. Napoleon, however, wished to re-establish slavery there, and sent a large army to subdue Toussaint. The wonderful negro, however, offered so determined a resistance that the French were forced to come to terms. They gave the most solemn guarantees, but broke them directly Toussaint laid down his arms.

He was seized and sent to France. He died there in prison. The people revenged this act of treachery on the French, who were soon compelled to evacuate the Island. A Republic was established, which had a chequered history. The Island was divided in 1844. In both Republics a rapid succession of Presidents fell to the assassin's knife, or fled the country. Under American control the two Republics will no doubt prosper and flourish. It is the best thing that could have happened to them, as it will ensure permanent peace and internal stability.

Q.—Of what race are the Haitians?

A.—Of the 2,500,000 people in the Republic about 90 per cent. are pure blooded negroes. The rest are mulattos, descendants of the French settlers. The language of the country is French. The population has almost trebled since 1887. The people of Santo Domingo, of whom there are about 700,000 are creoles and mulattos. The language spoken is Spanish. The people in both Republics are Roman Catholics.

QUESTIONS ON RUSSIA ANSWERED.

Professor Bertrand Russell is one of the greatest British thinkers of today. His descriptions of life in Russia are most valuable because of the manifest freedom from bias. He found that daily life under the Soviets had "neither the horrors depicted by the Northcliffe press nor the delights imagined by the more ardent of our younger Socialists." He gave his impressions in British and American papers. The answers given to the following questions are all in Bertrand Russell's own words:—

Q.—Is it a fact that general orderliness has improved under the Bolsheviks?

A.—The whole impression is one of orderly, virtuous activity. There is, of course, no drunkenness, or, at any rate, so little that none of us ever saw a sign of it. There is very little prostitution; infinitely less than in any other capital. (Professor Russell is describing Moscow particularly).

Q.—Have the conditions of labour been made more attractive by the communist rule of the Soviets?

A.—Life is very hard for all except men in good posts. It is hard, first of all, owing to the food shortage. This is familiar to all who have interested themselves in Russia, and it is unnecessary to dwell upon it. What is less realised is that most people work much longer hours than in this country. The eight-hour day was introduced with a flourish of trumpets; then, owing to the pressure of the war, it was extended to ten hours in certain trades. But no provision exists against extra work at other jobs, and many people do extra work because the official rates do not afford a living wage.

Q.—Is not the present suffering due mainly to the war and the blockade?

A.—It is due chiefly to war and blockade. . . . Life in Moscow, as compared to life in London, is drab, monoto-

nous and depressed. . . . When it is realised that the highest wages are about 15s. a month, this is not surprising. I do not think that life could under any system be very cheerful in a country so exhausted by war as Russia, so I am not saying this as a criticism of the Bolsheviks. But I do think there might be less police interference, less vexatious regulation, and more freedom for spontaneous impulses towards harmless enjoyments.

Q.—What of the spy system of the Extraordinary Commission?

A.—Journeys have vexations in addition to the slowness and overcrowding of the trains. Police search the travellers for evidences of "speculation," especially for food. The police play altogether a much greater part in daily life than they do in other countries—much greater than they did, for example, in Prussia twenty-five years ago, when there was a vigorous campaign against Socialism. Everybody breaks the law almost daily, and no one knows which among his acquaintances is a spy of the Extraordinary Commission. Even in the prisons, among prisoners, there are spies, who are allowed certain privileges, but not their liberty.

Q.—Are the Courts of Justice well organised?

A.—Once arrested, a man or woman, however innocent, may remain for months in prison without trial. While we were in Moscow 40 Social revolutionaries and anarchists were hunger-striking to enforce their demand to be tried, and to be allowed visits. I was told that on the eighth day of the strike the Government consented to try them, and that few could be proved guilty of any crime, but I had no means of verifying this.

Q.—Is the conscription of labour in actual operation?

A.—Industrial conscription is, of course, rigidly enforced. Every man and woman has to work, and slacking is severely punished by prison or a penal settlement. Strikes are illegal, though they sometimes occur. By proclaiming itself the friend of the proletarian, the Government has been enabled to establish an iron discipline beyond the wildest dreams of the most autocratic

American magnate. And by the same professions the Government has led Socialists from other countries to abstain from reporting unpleasant features in what they have seen.

Q.—How are conscientious objectors treated under the military law?

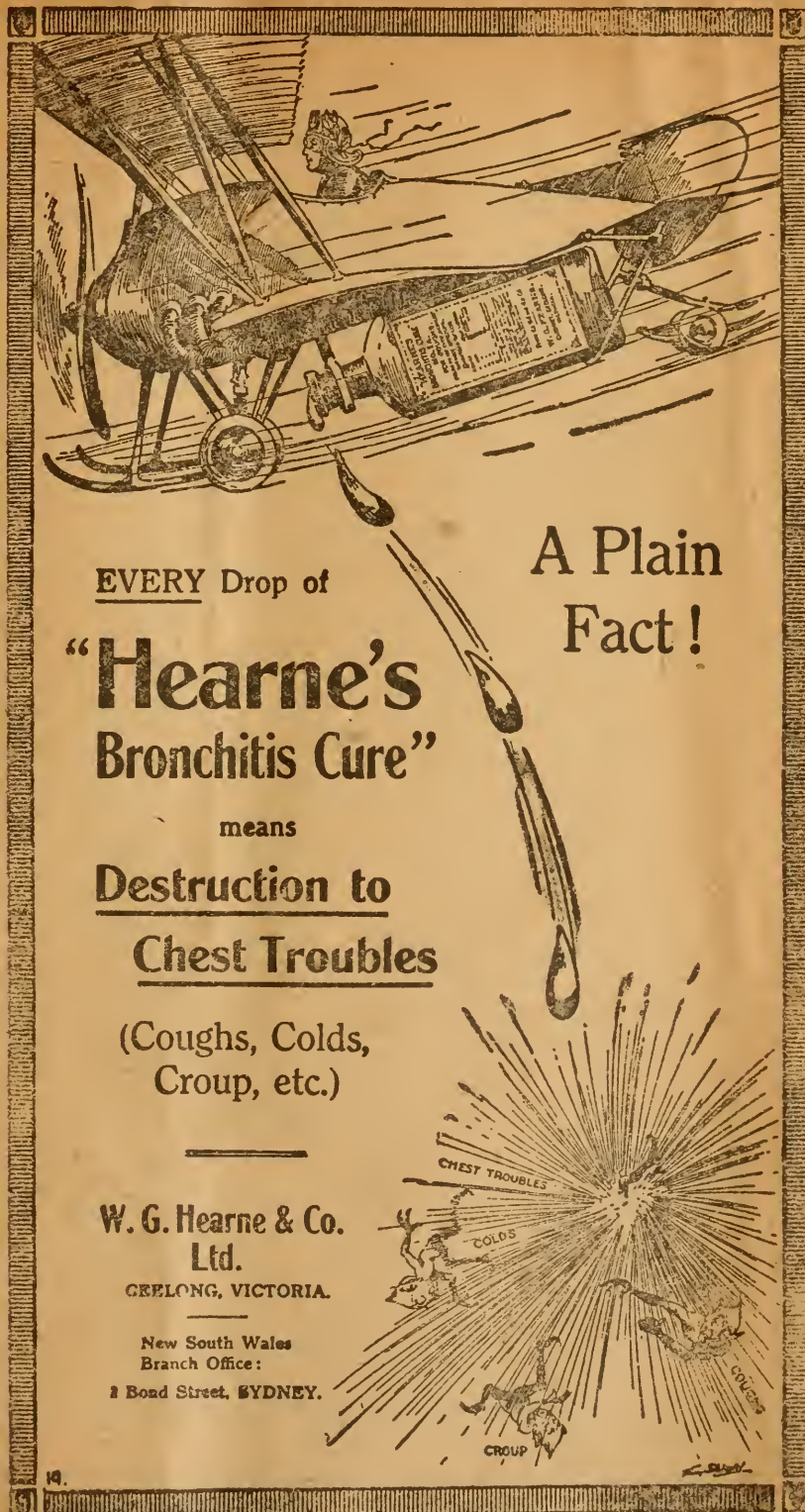
A.—The Tolstoyans, of whom I saw the leaders, are obliged by their creed to resist every form of conscription, though some have found ways of compromising. The law concerning conscientious objectors to military service is practically the same as ours, and its working depends upon the temper of the tribunal before which a man comes. Some conscientious objectors have been shot; on the other hand, some have obtained absolute exemption.

Q.—Have the churches been destroyed?

A.—Religion is still very strong. I went into many churches, where I saw obviously famished priests in gorgeous vestments, and a congregation enormously devout. Generally, more than half the congregation were men, and among the men many were soldiers. This applies to the towns as well as to the country. In Moscow I constantly saw people in the streets crossing themselves.

Q.—Do the workers appear happy over their release from capitalism?

A.—There is a theory that the Moscow working man feels himself free from capitalist domination, and therefore bears hardships gladly. This is no doubt true of the minority, who are active communists, but I do not think it has any truth for the others. The average working man, to judge from a rather hasty impression, feels himself the slave of the Government, and has no sense whatever of having been liberated from a tyranny. I recognise to the full the reasons for the bad state of affairs in the past history of Russia, and the recent policy of the *Entente*. But I have thought it better to record impressions frankly, trusting the readers to remember that the Bolsheviks have only a very limited share of responsibility for the evils from which Russia is suffering.



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Summary of Annual Report.

For Year Ended 30th June, 1920.

SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT.

Total amount at credit of depositors	£37,745,228
(Increase for year, £3,233,661)	
Reserve Fund, Savings Bank Department	500,000
Tramway Fund, Deposits by Tramway Board	86,593
Other Funds and Accounts	63,357
Balance of unallotted profit carried forward	206,577

Total £38,606,755

ASSETS are invested as follow:—

Cash in hand and deposits with other banks	£8,651,395
Commonwealth War and Peace Loans	1,605,620
Victorian Government Loans	19,694,623
Credit Foncier Debentures	3,733,599
Board of Works and other Municipal Loans	3,195,343
Mortgage Securities	1,314,581
Mortgage Property foreclosed	6,099
Bank Premises	390,000
Sundry Items	15,425

Total £38,606,755

Interest credited depositors for the year, at £3/15/- per cent.	£1,195,636
Net profit for the year in Savings Bank Department	£59,768

PROGRESSIVE STATEMENT FOR TEN YEARS.

Year Ended 30th June.	Number of Offices, Branches.	Agencies.	Total Number of Accounts.	Total of Depositors' Balances, including Deposit Stock.
1910	68	343	560,515	£15,417,887
1911	69	354	595,424	17,274,423
1912	103	319	641,736	19,662,465
1913	115	318	674,542	21,565,921
1914	123	322	705,029	23,381,696
1915	128	323	721,936	25,044,029
1916	129	332	746,597	26,404,284
1917	132	327	780,139	28,656,994
1918	133	331	813,031	31,108,436
1919	132	336	850,486	34,511,567
1920	134	339	886,344	37,746,228

CREDIT FONCIER DEPARTMENT.

This department issues debentures and stock, and with the proceeds makes advances on farm and house properties.

The amount of debentures and stock current at 30th June, 1920, was as follows (face value):—

Held by Savings Bank Department	£3,771,600
Held by General Public	1,622,450

Total £5,394,050

The number and amount of loans current at 30th June, 1920, were as follow:—

Soldiers' Loans:	
869 House Securities	£384,933
30 Farm Securities	23,392
Other Loans:	
10,446 House Securities	2,906,944
3,764 Farm Securities	1,921,735

Total 15,109 Loans for Total of £5,237,054

The advances made during the year were as follow:—

On 2,513 House Securities	£1,032,805
On 302 Farm Securities	227,700

Total 2,815 New Advances for Total for £1,260,505

The net profit for the year in the Credit Foncier Department was £22,101.

Reserve Fund of Credit Foncier Department	£195,065
---	----------

SAFE DEPOSIT DEPARTMENT.

This Department makes no charge for any service in connection with War Loan Investments, on which interest is collected and placed to credit of depositors. The Bank now holds:—
£3,010,770 of War Bonds for 57,232 depositors.

£298,177 of War Savings Certificates for 14,275 depositors.

A small charge is made for other parcels and boxes held for safe custody for 3,364 depositors.

Head Office, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

GEO. E. EMERY, Inspector-General.

FINANCIAL NOTES.

The market has not brightened up, though business has been fairly active in a few selected stocks. A better demand exists for the lower-interest-returning War Loan stocks. This in part is due to the fact that it is a decidedly paying game to get hold of conversion rights, then borrow the new Peace Loan scrip and sell the converted stocks. That is, of course, if there are such flats among investors as will sell their rights for a small sum, as some have done. Both $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cents. and 5's each firmed a little during the past week, but whether this is a transitory movement or not cannot yet be gauged.

The financial position with London is unchanged. Banks will not furnish funds for other than the best of their customers to handle drafts for exports from Great Britain to Australia, and credits are being kept within narrow limits on this side. This does not make for an active stock and share market, and in some cases realisations are going on with the object of easing up finances. In the list of banking securities a small amount of interest has been displayed in Commercial Bank of Australia scrip, because of the announcement by the board of a proposal to issue fresh ordinary shares. Still the general tendency has been for securities to ease. The new issue of Dunlop Rubber preference has been selling at relatively low prices, though sales for some reason have not been quoted. Then, too, Swallow and Ariell have shown a disposition to ease. Steps are being taken to place a big issue of preference shares for one of the big drapery houses in Melbourne, but here again publicity is debarred. The mining market has forgotten Badak, so the news that it was a duffer worried very few dealers, but investors look blue at the information. So far as Broken Hill stocks go, the award of Mr. Justice Edmunds, as revised, hits the mines badly, but it is hoped that some way for adjustment will be devised. Copper stocks have fallen flat, and the fact that the Bendigo Amalgamated is to take up as a fresh enterprise a business like that of the

Dunlop Rubber has not caused any fresh buying of scrip. Developments at the mines are poor, and costs very high, so the outlook is not too cheerful. Hampton Plains mines are still trying to find payable shoots of ore, and the big claims at Kalgoorlie are earning dividends more out of the premium on gold than anything else.

VICTORIAN SAVINGS BANK.

The annual statement of accounts of this bank, and the report of its Inspector-General (Mr. Geo. E. Emery) just issued, cover the period ending June 30 last. The institution is the best managed concern of the kind in the southern hemisphere, and has always been supported by the people of the State. The figures now submitted show that depositors have at their credit no less a sum than £37,745,228. The number of accounts is 886,344, or if 198,924 small accounts be excluded, the percentage of the population having operative assets with the bank is about 46 per cent., the average sum at the credit of all depositors being £54 17s. 11d., as compared with £52 8s. 5d. last year. Figures like these give some idea of the extent to which the facilities offered to the thrifty of the population to entrust funds to the bank are utilised. That there is every justification for the confidence displayed is demonstrated by the action of the bank in keeping over £8,500,000 of its funds liquid. The reason this is done is to guard depositors' interests during these abnormal times, and, as $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the funds are represented by this allotment of funds, the action of the officials can be seen to constitute a strong safeguard for the bank's customers.

To pay the rate of interest allowed on deposits the bank invests largely in Victorian State stocks and municipal debentures, in its own Credit Foncier bonds, and also in mortgages, and in Commonwealth stocks. Its total investments this year and last year compare as follow:—

June 30/19. June 30/20.

	£	£
Cash, bank deposits, etc.	7,994,495	8,666,820
Mortgages, etc.	1,984,658	1,710,681
Stocks and bonds . . .	25,557,591	28,229,254

35,536,744 38,606,755

Inasmuch as the bank has £8,749,300 of loans maturing in the next eighteen months, and as there is very little chance of the interest rate dropping in the meantime, it is pretty clear that a larger income will soon be flowing in from the renewal of loans under more advantageous terms. Some of the money will be eaten up by the additional salaries that have to be paid, but generally it is clear that the progress of the bank is assured unless some financial upset unexpectedly disorganises the finances of the nation. Where the bank is rendering great assistance to the community is by the aid it gives to the farmer and to the householder to acquire either farm or home. When the Credit Foncier department was started up to 10 and 12 per cent. had to be paid by farmers for accommodation, but even in these times they can get money from the department at 6 per cent., and pay off the balance over a term of years. To date, the value of the Credit Foncier bonds issued to provide the capital to carry on this lending business amounts to £5,394,050, and the money lent is £3,291,926 on house properties, and £1,945,127 on farms. Assistance is given on liberal terms to the returned soldiers. The success of this branch of the bank is shown by the fact that only five properties, valued at £2164, are in the hands of the banks at the present time.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

At last the directors of the Commercial Bank of Australia have outlined the proposal they have in mind for furnishing the bank with fresh capital, and wiping out the deficiency in the Assets Trust Coy's. accounts. The idea is to make an issue of ordinary shares of exactly the same number of shares as now exist in the bank—both preference and ordinary. For every share held the shareholder will be entitled to take up one new share, so that the quota now exist-

ing in respect to the preference and ordinary shareholders will be maintained. The scheme is ingenious, and on the face of it looks fair to all concerned, but that can be questioned. Why should a man who holds a share representing only 10s. in the paid-up capital of the bank have an equal right to take up shares as the man who holds a £10 share, especially when it has been the capital of the latter on which the bank has made into a safe haven? That is the point that has to be settled in the new scheme, and it is difficult to see how it will be accepted by men who hold preference shares. The power they now exert in the institution will disappear unless they can get the Court to restore their old voting privileges. What the ordinary shareholder will point out is that he has lost £9 per share over the bank, and therefore, although his scrip now stands as 10s. paid up, the heavy losses sustained by him should in fairness be taken into account. What he does not recognise is that he has only played the smallest possible part in the rebuilding up of the bank's finances. The view that is thus submitted is the one the late Mr. Robert Harper, with his Scotch tenacity, ever kept in front of him. Where he was fortunate, as were the ordinary shareholders, was in the fact that he at no time was faced by a will as determined and as combative as his own. There always has been great disinclination on the part of any shareholder to force an institution like a bank into a tight corner, but if the preference capital in the olden days had been imbued with a spirit of antagonism to the ordinary shareholder and his control, then the latter would have had to come to heel. The fairest thing to do at the moment appears to be to have meetings of both classes of shareholder, so as to see what are their respective opinions. If the preference shareholder feels that what he is offered is adequate, the matter is ended. If he does not, then he can combine forces, and tell the board what compromise he regards as a fair return. What has to be remembered is that the bank itself holds a block of ordinary shares. Whether these should be used in any voting is a matter for consideration.



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SIR DENISON MILLER, K.C.M.G.,
July 1st, 1920. Governor.

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The mechanical cost of filling subscriptions has almost doubled in the past three years. It is still going up. In order to bring it down, STEAD'S REVIEW henceforth will adopt the practice of **not sending formal acknowledgments of remittances**. When you renew your subscription you will no longer receive a postcard acknowledging it. Instead, the wrapper on the **second** issue following the receipt of your renewal will bear the expiration date, thus automatically informing you that your remittance was received and your subscription extended. If you are subscribing for the first time, the receipt of the magazine and the expiration date on the wrapper will be our acknowledgment.

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S.R., 13/11/20.

HOW SINN FEIN GOVERNS.

(Continued from page 674.)

rescuing the prisoners. There was a similar incident at Charleville in the same county, where a criminal was liberated by the foreign troops and a Republican officer killed. But these are the little difficulties we have to surmount, and we are surmounting them. While the British Judge Wakely was sitting in the empty court-house at Boyle, County Roscommon, the Republican magistrates held a session outside the court-houses, and gave judgment on many cases which had previously been listed for hearing before the British courts.

Sinn Fein courts are operating in twenty of the Irish counties. It is claimed that they are resorted to by the vast majority of Irish litigants, that not only Sinn Feiners but English residents come to these courts for justice—and get it. There is no discrimination. But apparently there are some novel methods of adjusting the balance of justice. Two brothers have equal rights to a piece of land, but cannot agree on the division. What could be more just than the plan of ordering one to divide the land equally and giving the other the choice of one or other half? Surely there are Solomons in Ireland!

Though no foreign Power has recognised Republican Ireland, she has her Consular officials already at work in France, Italy, Germany, the United States and the Argentine. "The Union is broken," says Mr. Carty, quoting the words of the *New Witness*, "England can never govern Ireland again."

A NEW RELIGION IN JAPAN.

A new religion has come to Japan. The heaven is spreading rapidly. The leaders have the fanatical devotion that will endure untold toil and martyrdom so that their principles may be made known to the world. The authorities have become alarmed at the power of the new church and are trying to suppress it, forgetful that religious institutions rise most vigorously from the blood of martyrs.

Some mention of the new religion—"Omoto-kyo," the religion of the Fountain Head—has been made in a press cable. But it is typical of the character of much of the cable news of these days

that the least reliable of the accounts appearing in the Anglo-Japanese press is sent to us. We are told on the authority of Mr. Kato Kakuji that Omoto-kyo is merely extreme Socialism, aiming at the destruction of the existing social basis. In Japan, the sanity of this gentleman is questioned, while his unreliability is considered beyond question. He told a "cock-and-bull" story of the dangers of his trip to Ayabe, the headquarters of the religion, and gave an account of its principles and methods that was quite at variance with those of less excitable observers. It is true that Omoto-kyo scriptures have many passages reminiscent of the New Testament teachings: "Blessed are ye poor: Woe unto you rich." And these seem to have frightened the capitalist instincts of Mr. Kato, who was formerly Chief of the South Seas Development Company. But, so far from advocating "the destruction of the national organisation," as he maintains, Omoto-kyo supports the nationalist cult of Japan (Shinto)—carries it, indeed, to the point of fanaticism. Japan is to save the world, to unify the world, to rule the world—though not, apparently, by conquest or violence. The foundress of the cult, Deguchi Nao, predicted the wars with China and Russia, and now, after her death, devotees are announcing a coming war with America. Some of the more superstitious believe that the anniversary of the accession of the ancient Emperor Jimmu (February 11th) in 1921 or 1922 will see the Japanese Emperor the great lord of the universe. One of them is known to be quietly awaiting the event at the foot of Mount Fuji. Probably the authorities are just as much alarmed at this overweening patriotism as at the prophecies of God's putting down the mighty from their seats, and exalting the humble and meek. The prediction of war with America is especially unfortunate, as the officials are certainly making an earnest effort to avoid the danger of such a conflict, which they know well would be ruinous to them at this time. Officialdom persistently declares a war with America to be unthinkable. And, though officialdom itself has inculcated the Shinto religion (of which Omoto-kyo is an off-shoot) in every pos-

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sible way, it is disconcerting to find that the fire thus started has got out of control.

However, it is difficult to say whether the nationalist features of Omoto-kyo will decide its destiny. For its creed has just as much of Christian benevolence and of Buddhist gentleness as of Shinto imperialism. And with these, and the many-gods belief implied, there is a dogma telling of a unique, complete God, "creator of the universe without limit and without end."

The creed of ten clauses opens with the declaration of this belief in the supreme divinity. The next three clauses are the traditional Shinto dogmas declaring the divine origin of Japan, of the Emperor as direct descendant of the Sun Goddess, and of the Japanese people. "We believe that Japan is a holy land, peerless in the world." But Japan's mission is a mission of peace:

"We believe that Kunitokodachi-no-Mikoto, the founder of the country, is a great guardian God who effects a reconstruction of the world, and establishes peace and order in the world."

Such is the fifth "credo." The sixth tells of another "first-rank" god, who assists the founder of the country, and "takes the lead in exhibiting the entire virtue of benevolence and love."

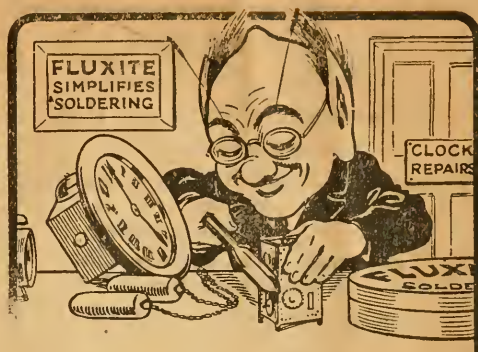
Dogma No. 7: "We believe that the foundress of Omoto is the only great religious teacher in the world," and so forth. Her inspiration is declared to be divine.

The next clause contains the essence of all spiritual religions, be they called Christian or by any other name:—

We believe that our spirits are spirits derived from God, that the body is the vessel of God, and that it is our duty to further the maturity of divine administration by constantly acting on divine principle of the spirit being principal and the body being accessory.

The ninth clause tells of the duty of keeping body and mind sound with the assistance of local guardian gods, and "the guardian god within ourselves." The tenth promises the reward of grace to the faithful and punishment to the sinful.

Although not included in the creed, the sinfulness of eating animal flesh was de-



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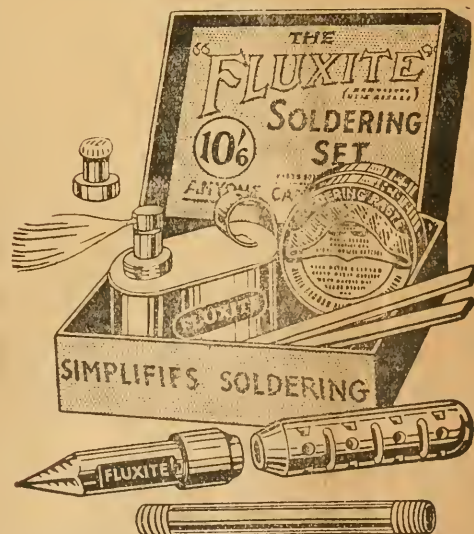
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clared very emphatically by the foundress. This Buddhistic belief gives hope that Omoto-kyo may pursue the ways of peace rather than of militarism.

One might write of the progress of this religion among educated people; it is significant that the leaders have bought a Tokio newspaper at a cost of about £40,000. One might tell of the fanaticism developed—the immolation of a child by its father. But the power of the cult lies in the inspiration of its foundress, Deguchi Nao, and we can get the truest appreciation of its driving force by taking a few passages from her writings:—

The world has passed under the sway of the country of the gods, which is as fine as the plum-blossoms, and whose rule is strong as the pine tree. Japan must be governed by *Shinto* (literally "the Way of the Gods") for it is a country which cannot do without the help of gods. Foreign countries are under the reign of brutes; they are countries where the strong have the upper hand, and devils abound. Japan has also come under the sway of brutes. But as this will not do, the god has appeared on the surface in order to rebuild 3000 worlds. This world is going to be turned into a new one. Three thousand worlds are to be subjected to a great washing and a great cleansing, so that the country of the gods may hold rule in the world in peace and forever.

The minds of men are now perverted. This is the reason why good appears evil, and evil good in their eyes. The world is now turned entirely topsy turvy. Those who are above (the governing class) in this world are doing nothing really good. Now that Ushitora no Konjin (the god incarnated in the foundress of the cult) appears on the surface, and washes out the world completely, the wickedness of those above will be exposed in due time. People who are below are now toiling and mowing year in and year out, always carrying earth up to the heights. Protected by evil demons, those who are above have presumed on their strength, and have had everything their own way. But henceforth, things will be entirely changed, and the world will be governed in a new way, so that those who have so far been above will have a fairly bad time of it.

The world is now under the rule of four-legged beasts. Good rice, vegetables and fishes of sea and river have been granted by heaven as food for men, and yet people are fond of eating four-legged beasts which are calculated to pollute the body and putrefy the blood, and this is said to be the doing of a civilised people, those who do not eat beef being denounced as barbarians. Labouring under this huge mistake, people have polluted this country, the clean abode of gods, from corner to corner, reducing it to a den of brutes. The

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Does not depend upon opportunity or intellectual brilliancy of any kind, because it is well known that uneducated people often acquire great wealth, while cultured and talented people remain in poverty.

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THIS ADVERTISEMENT

contains a message of such transcendental importance that no reader of this magazine, whether man, woman or child, should fail to answer it.

DANCERS

Can't Have Corns !

**Pretty, Vivacious MISS MATTIE IVE, Lifts
Out a Mean Corn with Finger Tips**

"I think it a duty to share with others the glorious relief—the delight of corn-freedom given by the new ether compound, Frozol-Ice. As a dancer, it of course is a real calamity when a sore, tender corn comes on my toes; and still I feel I must wear fashionable shoes for street wear.

"However, thanks to Frozol-Ice, I now enjoy both dancing and pretty street shoes, and I have no hesitancy in saying that Frozol-Ice is the only thing I've ever used that would really let me do both." (Signed)

MATTIE IVE.

Dame Fashion dictates that women shall wear high-heel footwear, which throws the weight right on to the toes, creating torturing corns. Next, women whittle away at these little "kill-joys," which is a most hazardous habit, because you are actually trifling with a terrible death from infection or lockjaw.



Why women do this is a puzzle, for any chemist can now supply the new ether compound, Frozol-Ice, which is perfectly safe and most effective. Two drachms may be had for trifling cost, and this is plenty to banish every hard or soft corn or tough callous from the feet. A few drops dabbed right on to the corn's "heart" at once relieves the soreness, and shortly the whole corn, root and all, can be lifted out without one twinge of pain.

Frozol-Ice is a substance that dries like a flash, and never gums up the stocking. It simply withers up the corn without the slightest inflammation or irritation of surrounding healthy flesh.

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AT CHEMIST'S

true gods have, therefore, all gone up to heaven, and the world has been turned into a habitation of demons, serpents and four-legged beasts and nothing else. The world being no longer inhabited by gods, it can only degenerate lower and lower. Hence great wars in the world, consuming money without end. Men in their prime all go forth for slaughter, and are killed themselves without number, leaving behind them only blind, deaf, crippled and aged, as well as women and children. And yet they must keep marching on their downward course until the human race is exterminated. People are deceived by the bad gods of foreign countries and are acting in a most reckless and thoughtless manner. Unable to look on any longer, the gods of this country are compelled to have recourse to their last resort in order to rescue the world.

Japan is the country which was made first by the gods. Being senior, the duty of safeguarding the world falls upon her. As the Country of the Gods she will not have performed her duty well unless she rescues the world from distress. The gods and people of Japan will not have performed their function so long as they do not first bend the Japanese people towards the divine spirit, and then turn every foreigner towards that spirit also. If you are Japanese, you ought to sympathise a little with the gods, and cleanse your souls in order to be of some use to the world.

At present Japan is as clouded as foreign countries. The country is the country of the gods only in name. This is lamentable to the gods, our ancestors. Henceforth, all the world shall be turned into a land of the gods, and all the gods, Buddhas and peoples shall live in good cheer. Those who are strong in faith shall be saved. The faithless must come again, I am sorry to say. The gods exercise care upon care. As the world is going to be thoroughly washed once more, and fundamentally rebuilt, the world will shake all at once. There will be an invasion of Tokyo. But things will be better afterwards.

The world will be busy rebuilding for ten years, of which the fifty-fifth year of Meiji (1922) will be the middle. The gods are now in a hurry to execute their plan, and there will be no further postponement.

This prophecy is considered remarkable in that it was written during the Russo-Japanese war.

ESPERANTO NOTES.

I once sat through the sessions of an international congress, writes Walter Thomas Mills, the American Labour leader. Its business was transacted in three languages. But there were seventeen nationalities represented, in which none of these languages was spoken. There were some delegates who understood many languages, but there was



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EARNEST SEEKERS

after the Truth in relation to communication with the Inner Realm of Being, should read **HEAVEN AND ELL**, by Swedenborg, written about the middle of the Eighteenth Century. The possibility and danger of speaking with Spirits are clearly stated. This book and other works by the same author, and by others on kindred subjects, obtainable at

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none who could speak to, or understand, all the rest. All of the nations at war were represented. It was an affecting spectacle to see these nations striving to understand each other. It has since proven, once more, a world-wide tragedy that they could not do so. Few of those who take the language courses in the schools are even able to get a working knowledge of even a single added language. No one can master them all. More languages are learned by personal contact, and because of necessity, than in any other way, but that rarely puts the learned in touch with the best thought and highest ideals of the nations, whose languages are learned in that way. I have met with Esperantists in fifteen different nations in a five years' journey around the world. They are almost always useful people, who, in the midst of a thousand other cares, are trying to understand each other the earth around. Esperanto offers to the busiest workers an opportunity never before in the reach of anyone—the ability to come in touch with the best there is said in all the living languages of the world. . . . Commercial bodies, universities, scientific associations, and now the armies of Europe are using Esperanto. The workers may—the workers must—do the same.

The use of Esperanto in commercial circles is one of the evidences of its value for serious people. Business men as a rule do not run after the fancy of the moment, but accept new ideas only if they see in them some practical and ready advantage. The possibility of communicating with all the world by using one simple language, instead of several difficult ones, naturally appeals to firms doing business with foreign parts; and the improvement in trade relationships has brought into prominence the need for such a language as Esperanto. A Russian business man, established in Japan, decided to use Esperanto for his foreign correspondence and advertising, and the list which he collected of Esperantist business houses in many countries was a truly imposing one.

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Signed.....

Address.....

Occupation.....

STEAD'S.

Relief for the Children of Europe.

(Continued from page 674.)

cases surpassed, in Poland or in Austria, but it is the enormously larger numbers affected in Germany which constitute the special gravity and urgency of her problem."

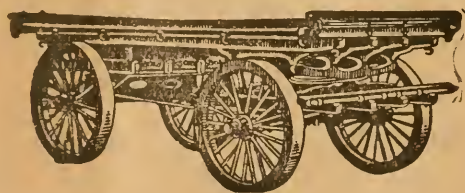
The distress among the children is mainly due to the lack of two things—milk and underclothing. In the large towns the milk supply fails to provide the slender rations reserved for mothers, infants, very young children, and the sick. Owing to bad conditions of transport, moreover, much of the milk arrives sour. Dorothy Buxton quotes a British official report, declaring that, even before Germany had handed over 140,000 cows under the terms of the Peace Treaty, "there was an appalling death-rate among mothers and children from an inadequate milk and fat supply. The privations of the mothers are now strikingly reflected in the condition of the newborn infants, who are not only born below the normal weight, but only very slowly add to it. Babies of five months often weigh less than the pre-war weight of a new-born infant. At Leipzig Dr. Schwyzer found that many babies of one year had not surpassed their weight at birth. The hospitals have a terrible record of hunger-diseases—tuberculosis, rickets, scrofula, anæmia, skin troubles.

To quote further from Dorothy Buxton's article:—

Many skin troubles arise or are aggravated owing to the lack of underlinen, and also the lack of soap. The trouble begins most acutely with the first months of life, when the infant's body often becomes almost raw from the rough rags (even sometimes newspapers) in which it is wrapped, and from the impossibility of frequently changing these articles when wet. In spite of drastic measures, such as the requisitioning of table-cloths from the hotels and restaurants to give as bed linen in the hospitals, linen and other materials are now so scarce that paper is also much used for bandages, and newspapers and packing paper for bedclothes for infants. Conditions in this respect in many cities seem as serious as in Vienna.

A Melbourne lady now in England has received a pathetic appeal from Germany: "We fear the worst this winter if the people have no work and no bread. Our bread is so poor, it only consists of 20 per cent. meal and 80 per cent. substitutes. . . . Not only bodily, but mentally, everything is below standard. If only you could see the undernourished children—who are certainly quite innocent as regards the war—you could not keep back your tears."

Donations, which may be either given for general distribution in Europe, or earmarked for special countries, may be sent to the Treasurer, Save-the-Children Fund, Town Hall, Melbourne, or the Society of Friends' Relief Committee, 20 Russell Street, Melbourne.



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"Oh! What a lovely blouse!"

"Yes, Doris, and I made it all myself."

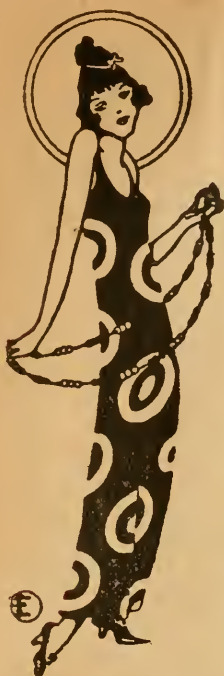
"What—you? Why you never made anything in your life! I have never seen a nicer blouse than that in the big City Stores, and you ask me to believe that you made it."

"But I did, Doris! You know it is nearly three months since I saw you last, and just afterwards I commenced to learn dressmaking by post right at home. I always thought dressmaking was hard before, but this was easy, and in the first two lessons I learned to make a very nice skirt, and have made many blouses since. This blouse is my latest effort. I have saved a lot of money, too, although I have more clothes than ever."

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plainly, stating whether Mrs. or Miss, and we will send you descriptive literature of the marvellous Associated System by return post, and a copy of our grand publication, "How to Learn Dressmaking Quickly and Easily"—FREE! Mention whether you prefer Dressmaking or Millinery. Do this immediately, as otherwise you may leave it till too late, and lose the chance of a lifetime. Be sure to SEND NO MONEY, and apply NOW to the ASSOCIATED SCHOOL OF DRESS-MAKING, 18 Canberra House, 295 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.



DOES MY LADY KNOW THAT -



The question of what kind of soap to use on the face and what kind to use on the body is such an individual one that in buying soap you will have to use your common sense. But for a facial soap you must buy a reliable make that has no free alkali in it. Go to a reputable chemist and you will find they carry reputable goods. If your skin is very oily, the best remedy in the world is to use plenty of soap on your face, for there is nothing in the world that will remove oil and grease like soap. If your hands are greasy you wash them with soap, don't you? Well, then, why not the face?

What you want to do is to cleanse the skin—not to irritate it. Wash the face in warm (not hot) water, using plenty of soap, rubbing gently with the brush or else a wash-rag. Then wash all the soap off, using more warm water. Finally rinse the face in cold water. This stimulates the pores you have opened and cleaned out. Then apply your cold-cream and powder, both of which are a protection to the skin.

Generally speaking, it will be sufficient to wash the face with soap-suds once a day—preferably at night. This will keep the skin perfectly clean. Mornings it will be sufficient to wash in warm water, and rinse in cold. Then use your creams before going out in the dust and dirt. If, however, you have a very oily skin, you can use the soap very freely twice a day, leaving the soap on for a few moments before washing off. This seems to get

hold of the oil, and tends to dry up the skin a little.

Straight hair can be worn only by the very young. Once you pass thirty wave your hair and pull it down softly over part of your forehead. A soft, round curl is most becoming on the forehead.

Any food which one can boil, steam or bake, can be cooked in the casserole. In preparing it, first cut the food into pieces for serving and, if desired, brown it over the fire in a frying-pan. Then place it in the casserole and add a small amount of water or stock, usually one cupful is sufficient. Season well, allowing one teaspoonful of salt and one-half teaspoon of pepper to every cup of water. The addition of herbs provides a variety in flavour. Then cover, and set in the oven to simmer several hours. Cook foods twice as long in the casserole as on the top of the stove.

Casseroles last indefinitely if given a chance, but they may break if they are not handled properly. It is wise to avoid sudden and great changes in temperature such as occurs when one takes the hot casserole from the oven and places it to cool in the wet sink. Likewise it is not advisable to set the cold earthenware casserole over a high flame without placing an asbestos mat beneath it. Always take care to temper the pottery, china and glass casseroles when they are new. Set the baking-dish in a larger pan and pour cold water in and about it, then bring it to the boiling-point. This gradual heating tempers it somewhat and makes it tougher. When cracks appear, the utensil is not sanitary any longer, because one cannot wash out the fat and the other food materials which collect in these openings.

For warm days an appetising sweet is a pineapple sponge. Take $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. gelatin, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of cold water, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar, 1 cup shredded, cooled pineapple and juice, juice of one lemon, 2 egg whites. Soak

the gelatin in cold water for twenty minutes, then dissolve it by standing it over hot water. Dissolve the sugar in the fruit, add the lemon-juice and combine with the dissolved gelatin. Set the dish in cold water and stir occasionally until mixture begins to thicken, then add gradually the whites of the eggs beaten to a stiff froth and beat with a wire egg-beater until the whole is very light and stiff enough to hold its shape. Pipe lightly enough in a glass serving-dish, and serve with cream.

When strawberries are in season do not fail to make strawberry whip. Take whites of 4 eggs, $4\frac{1}{2}$ cupfuls berries, 4 cupfuls powdered sugar. Beat the whites of the eggs with a wire whisk until they are frothy; sift in the sugar gradually, beating all the time. Crush the berries and beat into the sugar and egg. This may be served with a garnish of lady-fingers or sponge cake, and is often served with a custard made from the yolk of the eggs.

The following is a good recipe for strawberry fruit salad: Arrange ripe halved strawberries in nests of crisp, white, lettuce-leaves, sprinkle with powdered sugar and orange juice; cover with one cupful of whipped cream or whipped evaporated milk to which has been added one-half cupful of mayonnaise dressing and one-fourth teaspoonful each of salt and paprika. Garnish with strawberries and slices of lemon dipped in sugar.

If white canvas pumps cut into the instep, try making a small slit in the front which will make the vamp a little shorter and broader. This slit can easily be covered up by a small buckle or bow.

To rid the kitchen or pantry of ants a successful and yet perfectly harmless way is to sprinkle a little ground cinnamon in whatever part of the room they are most bothersome.

An excellent cleaner for white shoes can be made as follows: Mix a tablespoonful of ordinary laundry starch with an ounce of water; make rather a thin paste, and apply as you would any other cleanser, allowing the shoes to dry thoroughly before wearing.

Many electric lamps fail owing to a single breakage of the filament (the thin wire inside the bulb), either by an accidental knock, or by "burning out." These lamps are usually thrown away, and replaced by new ones, but it is not generally known that a large percentage of such lamps may be easily repaired—the only requirement being a moderate amount of patience. Proceed as follows: Insert the lamp in a pendant holder, with the supply switched on, and holding it horizontally, turn it slowly round, constantly tapping and shaking the glass. The object of this is to cause the broken ends of the filament to touch, thereby making the lamp light. The heat produced when this occurs is sufficient to fuse the ends together, and the lamp may then be put back into service. It is no use attempting to repair a lamp if the filament is broken in more than one place, neither is it worth while to do so if the glass is at all blackened inside.

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Famous English Custard Powder

(NOW MADE IN AUSTRALIA)

This Famous Custard Powder, which has already become so popular in England and throughout the Empire, and is unrivalled in its special quality, is now made in Australia, and still preserves its original characteristics. It is manufactured under supervision trained in the English factory. So in all points the people of Australia may rely upon getting the same fine quality and high-class article as formerly imported, at the same time fostering Australian industry.

Foster Clark's Famous Custard Powder

Can be obtained from all Grocers and Storekeepers in the following sizes:
16 oz. Containers, making 24 pints. 12 oz. Packets, making 18 pints.
4 oz. Packets, making 6 pints.

Did you answer those letters ?



How often does it happen that your letters remain unanswered because of the mess and bother of antiquated pen and ink methods—coupled, perhaps, with a disinclination to look upon your own handwriting !

It is our privilege to explain to correspondents just how an "Underwood Portable" will make the writing of letters a pleasant and interesting occupation. Let us send you details of this handy little personal typewriter. They are post free, and entail no obligation.

Stott and Underwood

**70 Pitt Street, Sydney
426 Collins Street, Melbourne**

"The House of Economy"

Fashionable Ready-for-Service Suits

At ANTHONY HORDERNS'

Here is an opportunity to secure a high-grade suit at a price—70/-—which proclaims in eloquent fashion the genuine savings to be effected by shopping at Anthony Horderns'.

For durability it would be difficult to equal this suit, and it is this fact, combined with the care in workmanship, that enables Anthony Horderns' Suits to retain their smart, "dressy" appearance, and give a term of service equal to higher-priced tailoring elsewhere. A comparison of the quality and value will convince.

MEN'S TWEED SAC SUITS

COAT has two or three buttons, roll collars. With or without vent.
VEST has four pockets, medium opening.
TROUSERS have side or cross pockets, hip pocket, plain or cuff bottoms.

In Dark and Medium Grey Fancies	70/-
In Fancy Grey Herringbone Tweeds	£5/19/6
In Dark Fancy Tweed	£6/17/6
In Navy Serge (Indigo)	£6/6/-
In Navy Serge (Rough)	£6/17/6

MEN'S SPORTS SUITS

Two-piece Sac and Trousers, in Summer-weight Tweeds.
COAT has four patch pockets, stitched-down belt at back.
TROUSERS have side and hip pockets, loops for belt, cuff bottoms.

In Dark Fancy Tweed	63/-
In Light and Dark Fancies	67/6
In Brown and Grey Mixtures	95/-

We pay carriage on Men's Wear to any part of N.S.W. On Interstate orders to the nearest port.



Anthony Hordern & Sons
Limited
BRICKFIELD HILL, SYDNEY